



Explore the Records from  
the U.S. National Archives

# Making THEIR MARK

Stories Through Signatures  
An Exhibition Guide

# **Making Their Mark: Stories Through Signatures**

**by: Jennifer N. Johnson**

Examining the Records at the National Archives  
Washington, DC





## About the National Archives



The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is the nation's record keeper. Of all documents and materials created by the United States Federal Government in the course of its business, only 1 to 3 percent are so important for legal or historical reasons that they are kept by us forever.

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Follow along and tweet about the *Making Their Mark: Stories Through Signatures* eGuide and exhibition with the #Signatures.

President Franklin Roosevelt signing the Declaration of War against Japan, December 8, 1941

*National Archives, Records of the National Park Service*



# Introduction

“Making Their Mark: Stories Through Signatures” is based on an exhibition at the National Archives’ Lawrence F. O’Brien Gallery in Washington, DC. This eGuide is an invitation to explore some of the stories behind the millions of signatures that rest in our holdings. Well-known signatures are found throughout the records of the National Archives. Equally important are the multitude of marks by people unknown to history.

“Making Their Mark” explores signatures in seven different categories:



Autographs



Famous



Infamous



Signature Style



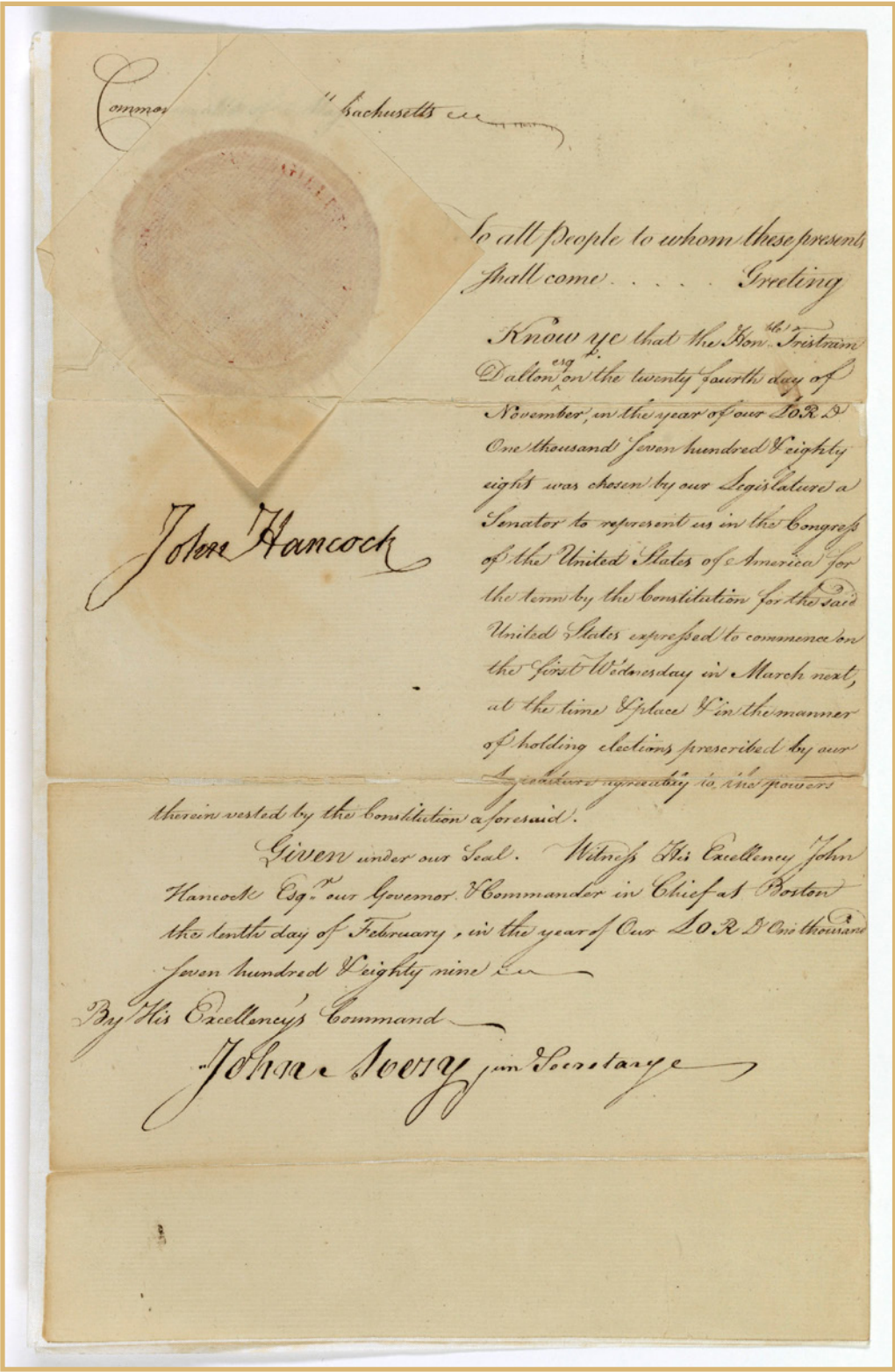
Official Business



Power of the Pen



Something to Say



Senate “credentials” for Tristram Dalton, signed by John Hancock  
National Archives, Records of the U.S. Senate

You can see famous signatures such as those of Magic Johnson and Michael Jackson in “Autographs” and “Famous,” “Infamous” marks such as Adolf Hitler and John Wilkes Booth’s, and in “Something to Say,” there are signatures of boys pleading for President Eisenhower to change their lives and a letter signed by Albert Einstein hoping to garner support for peace. Other stories such as George Washington humbly asking for how he should retire as Commander in Chief are found in “Official Business.”

All of these “signatures” illustrate the many ways people have placed their signature on history, from developing a “Signature Style” to signing groundbreaking policy into law in “Power of the Pen.” The stories in these records, of famous and infamous, known and unknown individuals, are part of our nation’s history, all having made their marks on the American narrative.

A signature can be as routine as a mark on a form or as extraordinary as a stroke of the pen that changes the course of history. Through their signatures, for example, the 56 men who signed the





Signing ceremony for environmental legislation

*Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*

Declaration of Independence simultaneously committed the brave (or dangerously foolish) act of treason against King George III and created a new nation. However, today, when you make a credit card purchase, sign a mortgage contract, or even a marriage license, your signature is likely to be electronic. Legislation allowing electronic signatures to formalize a contract or allowing the autopen to authenticate a law is leading us further away from personalized marks, symbolized by John Hancock's famous and distinctive signature.



President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev exchanging pens  
after signing the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, December 8, 1987

*Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*





## Autographs

Truman,  
Stalin, and  
Churchill  
**8**

A Gift of  
Thanks  
**9**

A First  
Lady  
**10**

Short  
Snorter  
**11**

Lakers  
**12**



## Famous

Katharine  
Hepburn  
**14**

Johnny  
Cash  
**15**

Jackie  
Robinson  
**16–17**

Ezra  
Pound  
**18**

Michael  
Jackson  
**19–20**



## Infamous

John Wilkes  
Booth  
**22**

Adolf  
Hilter  
**23–24**

Saddam  
Hussein  
**25**



## Signature Style

Jacqueline  
Kennedy  
**27**

Franklin  
Roosevelt  
**28**

Dwight  
Eisenhower  
**29**

Lyndon  
Johnson  
**30**

Michelle  
Obama  
**31**

Ansel Adams  
**32**

Dorothea Lange  
**33**

Walt Disney  
**34**



## Official Business

Emerson &  
Whitman  
**36**

Julia Child  
**37**

Richard Nixon  
**38**

Barry  
Goldwater  
**39**

Selective  
Service Cards  
**40–41**

John Huston  
**42**

Mint  
Petition  
**43**

George  
Washington  
**44**



## Power of the Pen

Recovery &  
Removal  
**46–47**

Signing Power  
**48**

Act of  
Congress  
**49**

Domestic  
Slave Trade  
**50**

Presidential  
Proclamation  
**51**

Executive  
Order  
**52**

Supreme  
Court  
Decision  
**53–54**



## Something to Say

Hopi Tribe  
**56**

Michael  
Rosenberg  
**57**

Osama Nakata  
**58**

Albert Einstein  
**59**

*Mercury 7*  
Astronauts  
**60**

Credits  
**61**

Acknowledgments  
**62**

Citations  
**64**





## Autographs

Imagine Joseph Stalin, Winston Churchill, and Harry S. Truman sitting at a dinner during the Potsdam Conference in 1945 making decisions for a post-World War II world. At some moment, aware of history-in-the-making or the power assembled in the room, Truman passes his program around to be signed. Even world leaders respond to the lure of an autograph, just as people in all walks of life seek and collect signatures from athletes, actors, and singers every day. What gives an autograph its power?



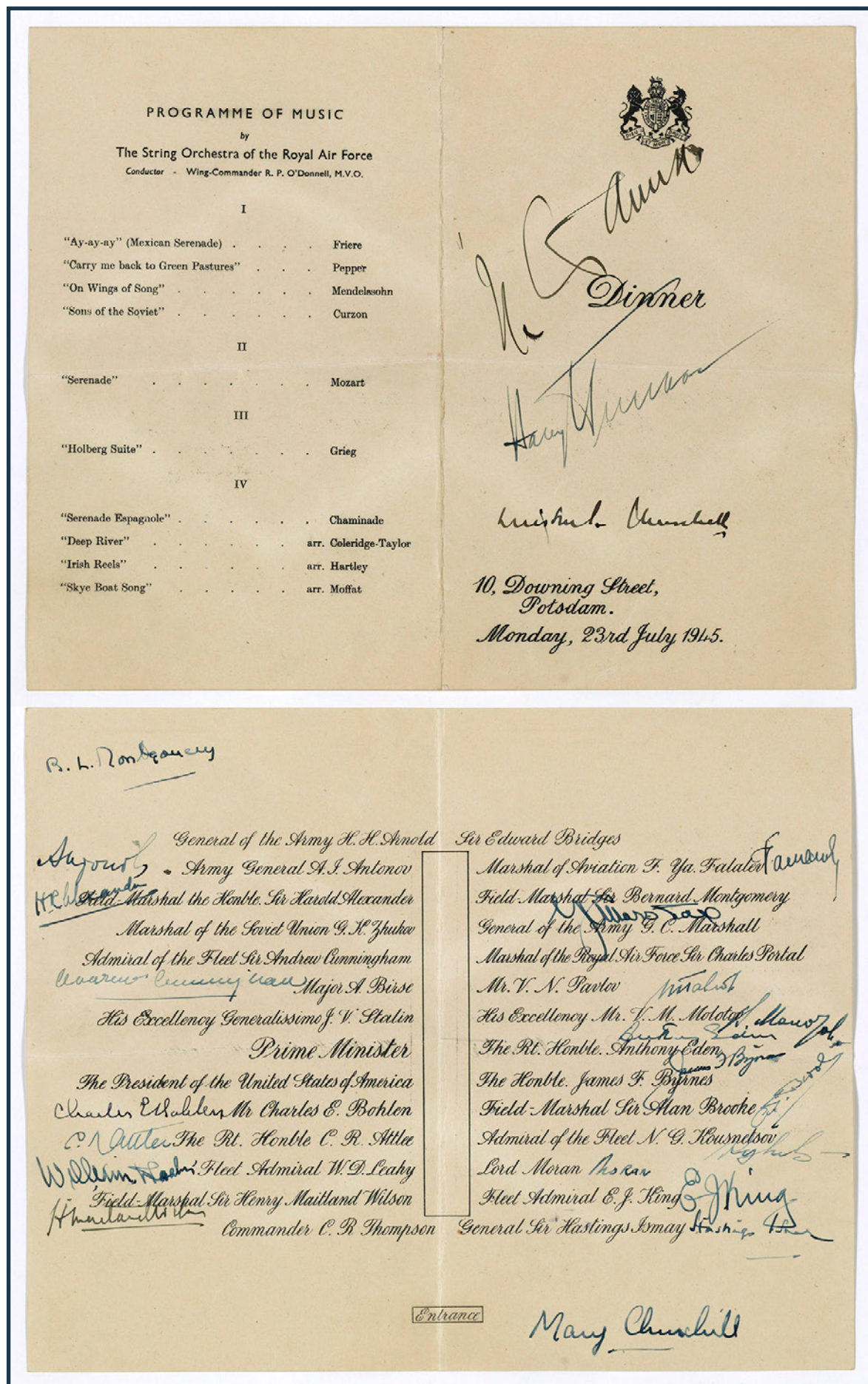


# Truman, Stalin, and Churchill

## Taking a moment

Hosted by Crown Prince Wilhelm of Prussia at his palace, Cecilienhof, U.S. President Harry S. Truman, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin, and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill met in Potsdam, Germany, as World War II was coming to an end. It would be the first and only time Truman and Stalin would meet. The three heads of government needed to agree on a few central issues: the political future of Eastern Europe; Russia's commitment to help defeat Japan (which happened on Truman and Stalin's initial meeting before the conference even began); and the future of Germany.

On the fifth night of the conference, the participants took a break from their negotiations to attend a lavish dinner. During the evening, President Truman passed around his program for the attendees to sign. Harry Truman, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin signed the cover. Inside are signatures of many who attended that night.



Dinner program from Potsdam

conference, July 23, 1945

Harry S. Truman Presidential Library  
and Museum, National Archives



See All  
Signatures





## A Gift of Thanks

### A reason to celebrate

For nearly 20 years, Iraq's national football (soccer) team played under the oppressive and brutal leadership of Saddam Hussein's oldest son, Uday Hussein. In 2007, under new coaches, the team won the Asian Cup for the first time. The win, which signaled Iraq's return to greatness on the international football scene, united Iraqi citizens and offered hope to the war-torn nation. This jersey is signed by the 2007 team and other officials. It was presented to President Obama by Prime Minister of Iraq Nouri al-Maliki in 2009.



Iraqi soccer jersey

National Archives, Courtesy of the Presidential Materials Division

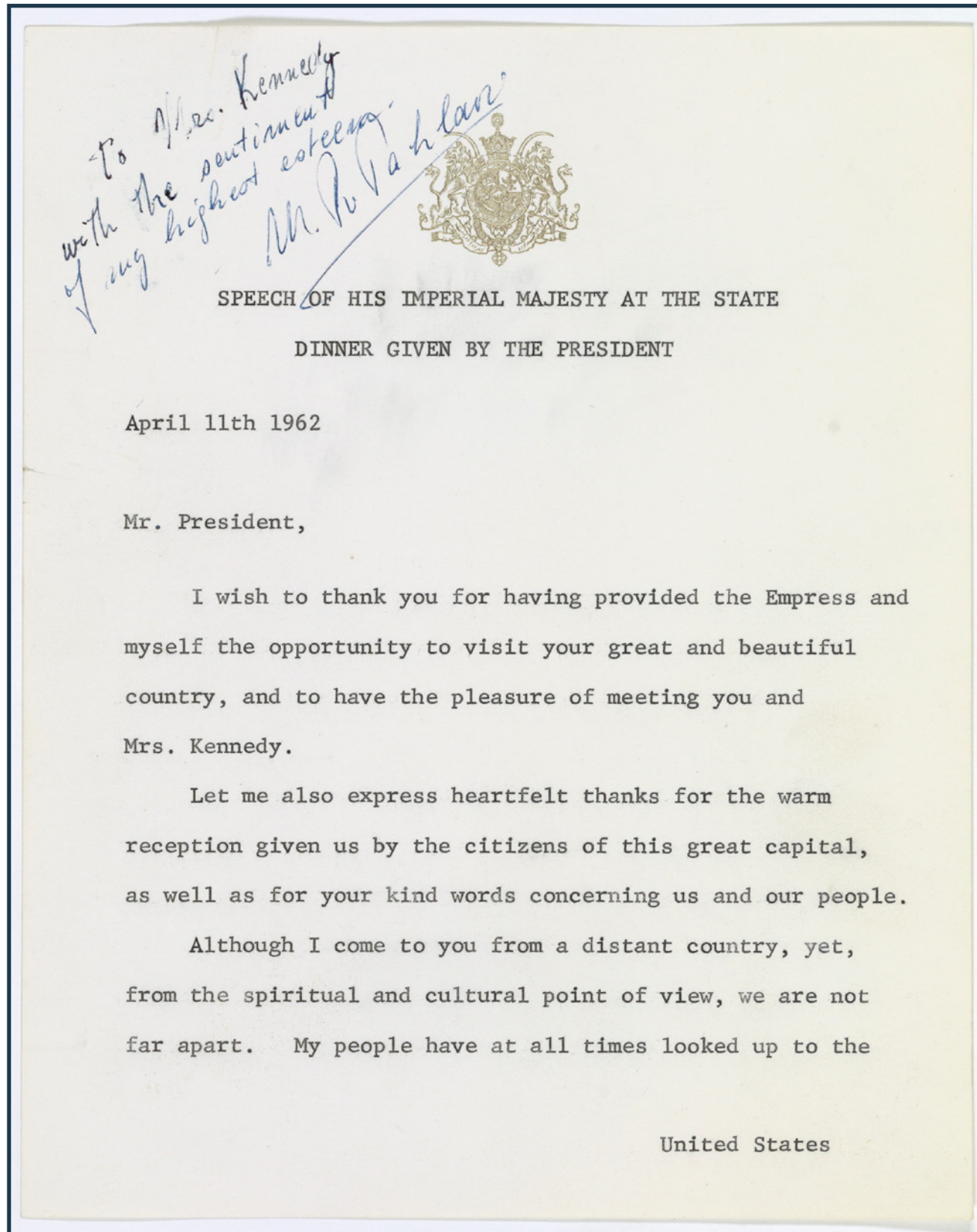




## A First Lady

### Collecting

Jackie Kennedy often asked dignitaries to autograph her seating card, a dinner menu, or reading copy of a speech they had just given. This is a reading copy for the speech Shah Mohammad Rezā Shāh Pahlavī of Iran delivered at the State Dinner held in his honor at the White House in 1962. He inscribed and signed it to Mrs. Kennedy.



SPEECH OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY AT THE STATE

DINNER GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT

April 11th 1962

Mr. President,

I wish to thank you for having provided the Empress and myself the opportunity to visit your great and beautiful country, and to have the pleasure of meeting you and Mrs. Kennedy.

Let me also express heartfelt thanks for the warm reception given us by the citizens of this great capital, as well as for your kind words concerning us and our people.

Although I come to you from a distant country, yet, from the spiritual and cultural point of view, we are not far apart. My people have at all times looked up to the

United States

Reading copy of speech given by the Shah of Iran

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives



Jump to  
Famous



See All  
Signatures





# Short Snorter

Short = less than a full measure

Snort = mixed drink

King George VI of England, the last Viceroy to India Lord Mountbatten, and President Franklin Roosevelt's son Elliott Roosevelt are a just a few of the 90-plus men and women who signed General Eisenhower's short snorters, a collection of 19 bank notes, representing over 10 countries. Short snorters date to the 1920s, when pilots in the Alaskan bush started the tradition of signing and exchanging currency and then sharing a drink with those they traveled with or met along the way. The tradition was adopted by the military.



Eisenhower's short snorter

Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives





# Lakers

## Showtime

Given to President Reagan in 1988, this Los Angeles Lakers shirt is signed by the team, including Magic Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and James Worthy. Credited for playing some of the best basketball ever seen, the team had the best record in the National Basketball Association for the 1987–1988 season and had just won their fifth championship of the decade.



Lakers polo shirt signed by team

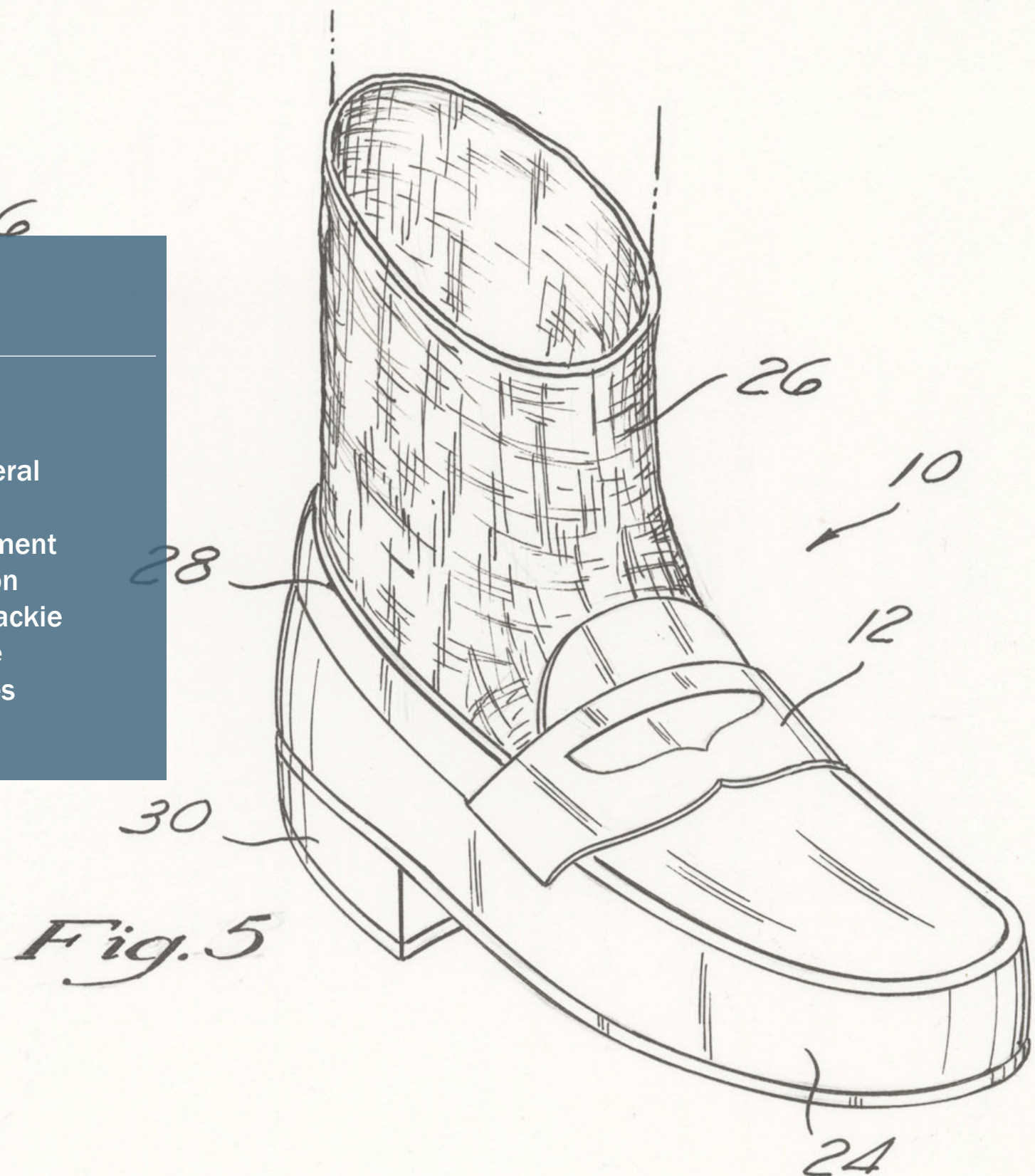
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives





## Famous

Famous signatures are scattered throughout the National Archives' holdings. Some worked for the Federal Government and can be found in personnel files. Others are signed letters to Presidents or government officials. A notable pop star's signature is found on patent paperwork. Why did Katharine Hepburn, Jackie Robinson, or Johnny Cash sign their names at the bottom of the following letters. Do their signatures lead to a deeper story?







# Katharine Hepburn

## Vouching for “an old friend”



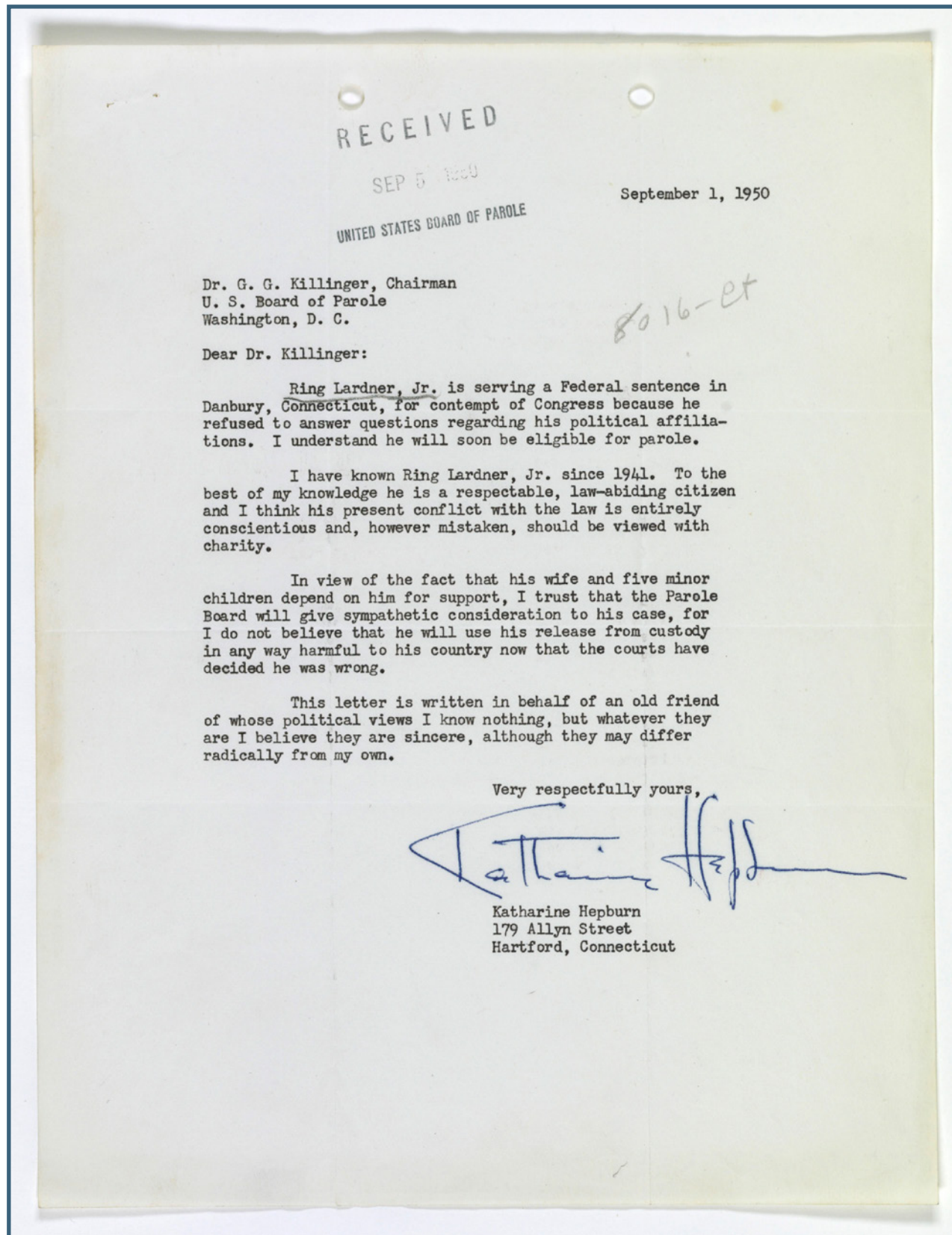
Katharine Hepburn, ca. 1932

National Archives, Records of the United States Information Agency (USIA)

Actress Katharine Hepburn worked with Ringgold Wilmer “Ring” Lardner, Jr., on the film *Woman of the Year*, for which they were both nominated for Academy Awards, with Lardner winning for best screenplay. Hepburn wrote to the U.S. Board of Parole on behalf of Lardner, Jr., on September 1, 1950.

Early during the Cold War, the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) investigated allegations of Communist activity in the film industry. In 1947, Lardner, Jr., and 19 others suspected of being Communists were called to testify. After they

refused to answer the Committee’s questions, Lardner, Jr., and 9 others were found guilty of contempt of Congress. Blacklisted from Hollywood, they became known as the “Hollywood 10,” and Lardner was imprisoned. By signing this letter, Hepburn opened herself to the risk of having her career destroyed. Few who were blacklisted were able to return to Hollywood.



Letter from Katharine Hepburn to U.S. Board of Parole

National Archives, Records of the Bureau of Prisons



Jump to  
Infamous



See All  
Signatures

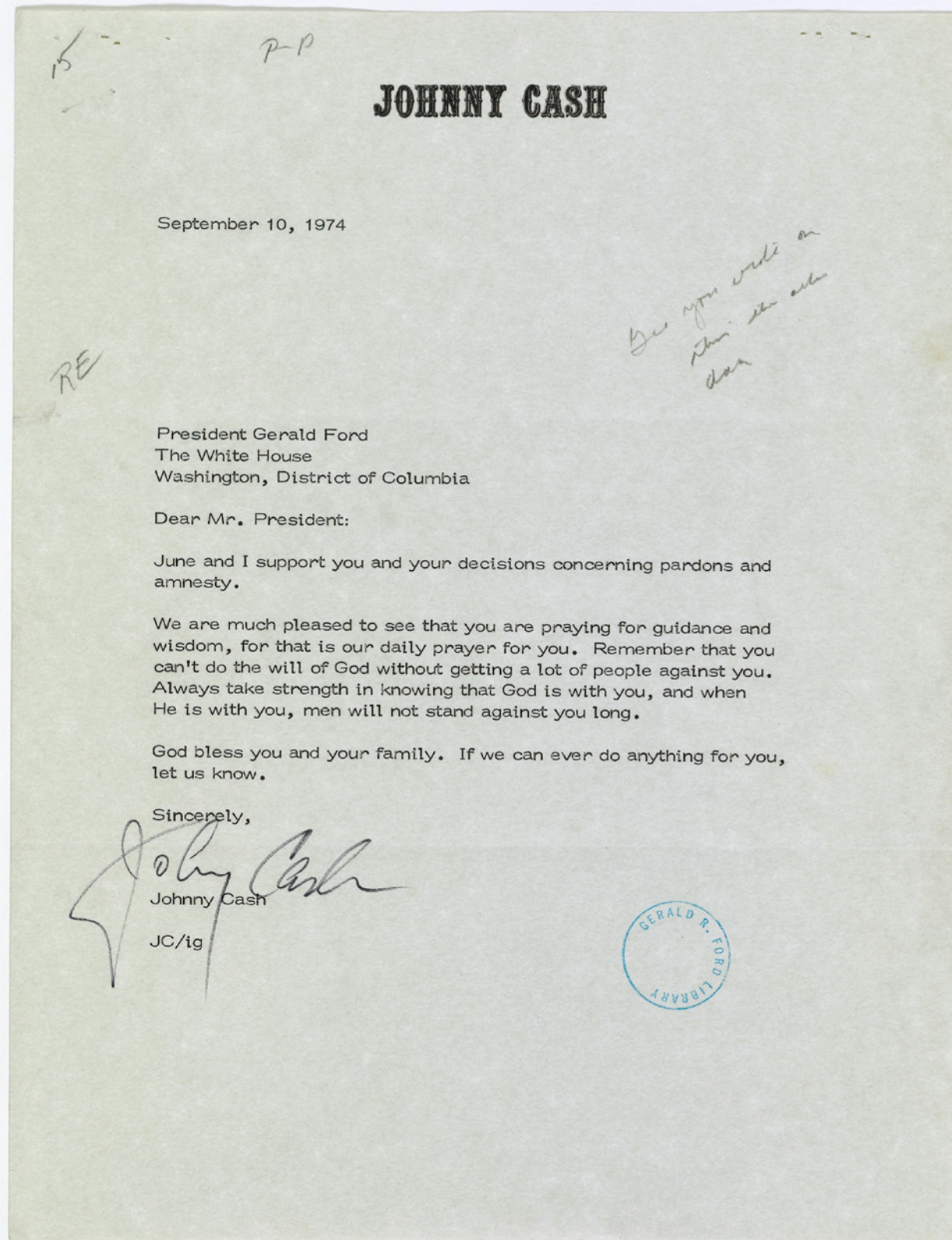




# Johnny Cash

## Support from “The Man in Black”

Country music artist Johnny Cash wrote to President Gerald R. Ford on September 10, 1974, expressing support for two of Ford’s recent controversial decisions. Two days earlier, the President had issued an unconditional pardon of Richard Nixon for crimes he might have committed as President. That same day, Ford also revealed plans to introduce an amnesty program for Vietnam War draft resisters.



Letter from Johnny Cash to President Ford

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives and Records Administration



Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash at the White House, November 21, 1975

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives and Records Administration



Jump to  
Infamous



See All  
Signatures





## Jackie Robinson

**“Oh no! Not again.”**

*“17 million Negroes cannot do as you suggest and wait for the hearts of men to change”*

Jackie Robinson’s entry into Major League Baseball ended 60 years of racial segregation in that sport. Off the baseball field, Robinson campaigned tirelessly for civil rights for blacks. In this letter to President Eisenhower dated May 13, 1958, Robinson, then vice president of personnel at Chock Full O’Nuts, criticizes comments Eisenhower made urging blacks to have patience in their struggle for equality.



Jackie Robinson, President  
Eisenhower, and comedian Joe E.  
Brown at the White House, 1957  
*National Archives, Records of the  
National Park Service*

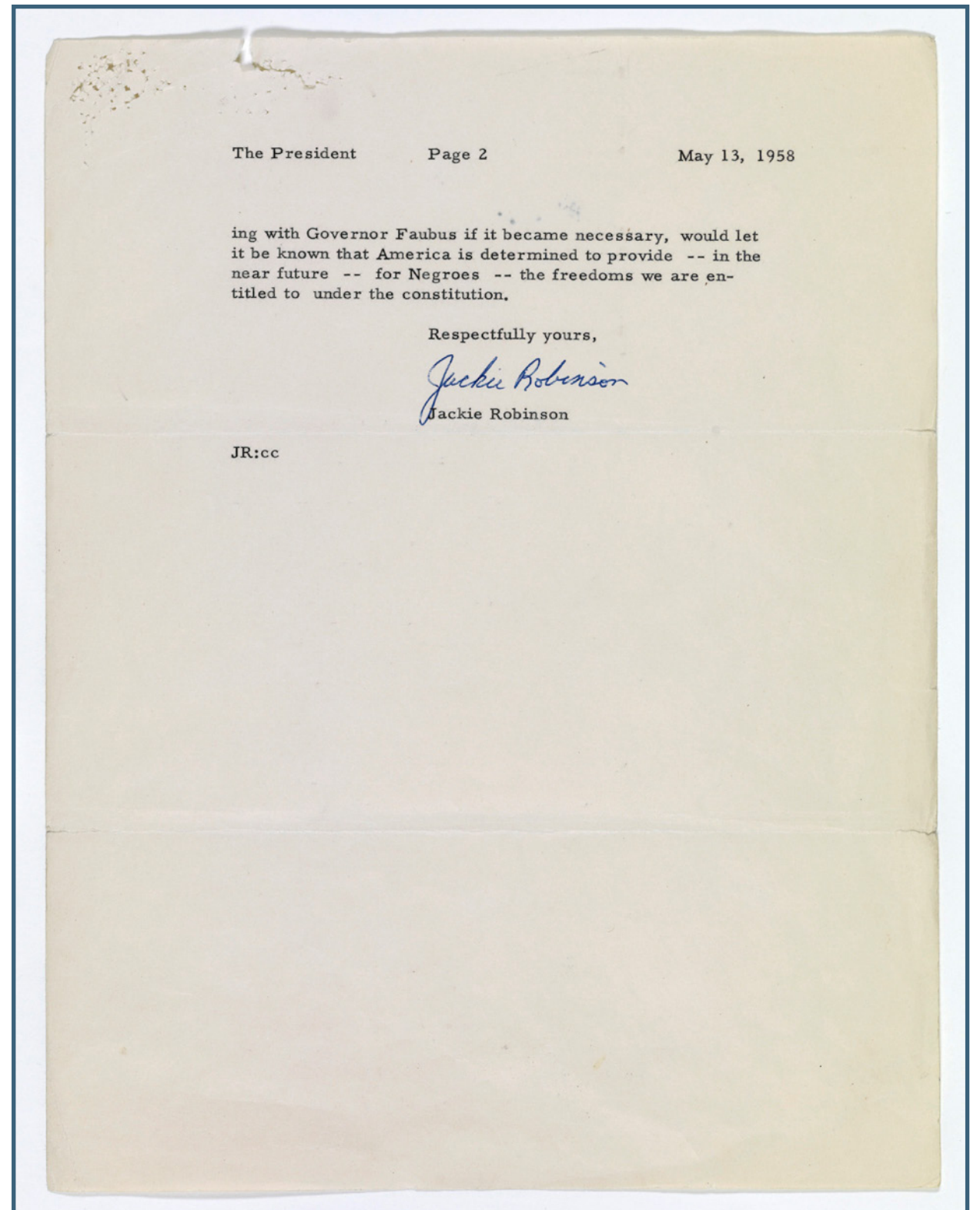
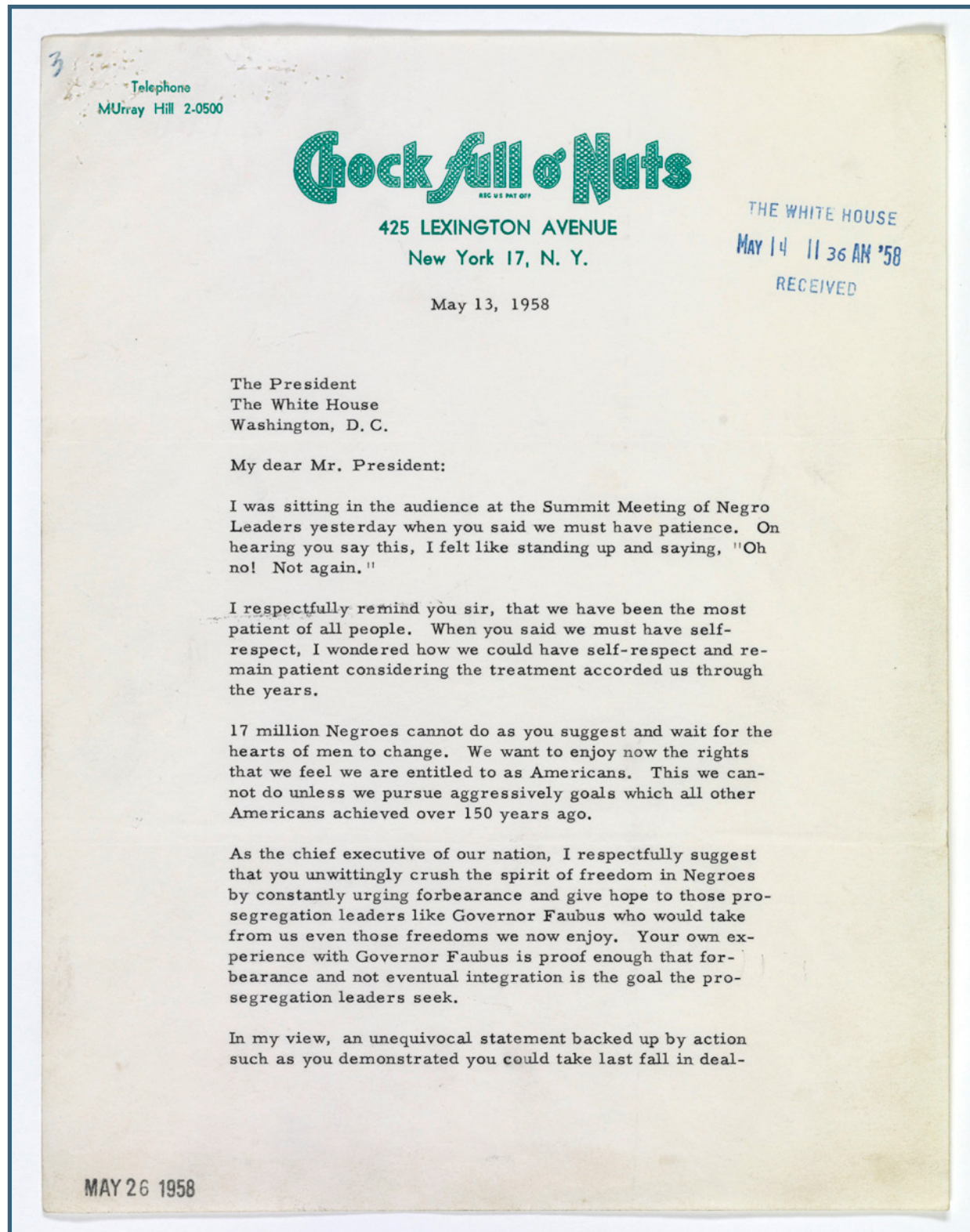


**Jump to  
Infamous**



**See All  
Signatures**





Letter from Jackie Robinson to President Eisenhower

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library and Museum, National Archives



Jump to  
Infamous



See All  
Signatures

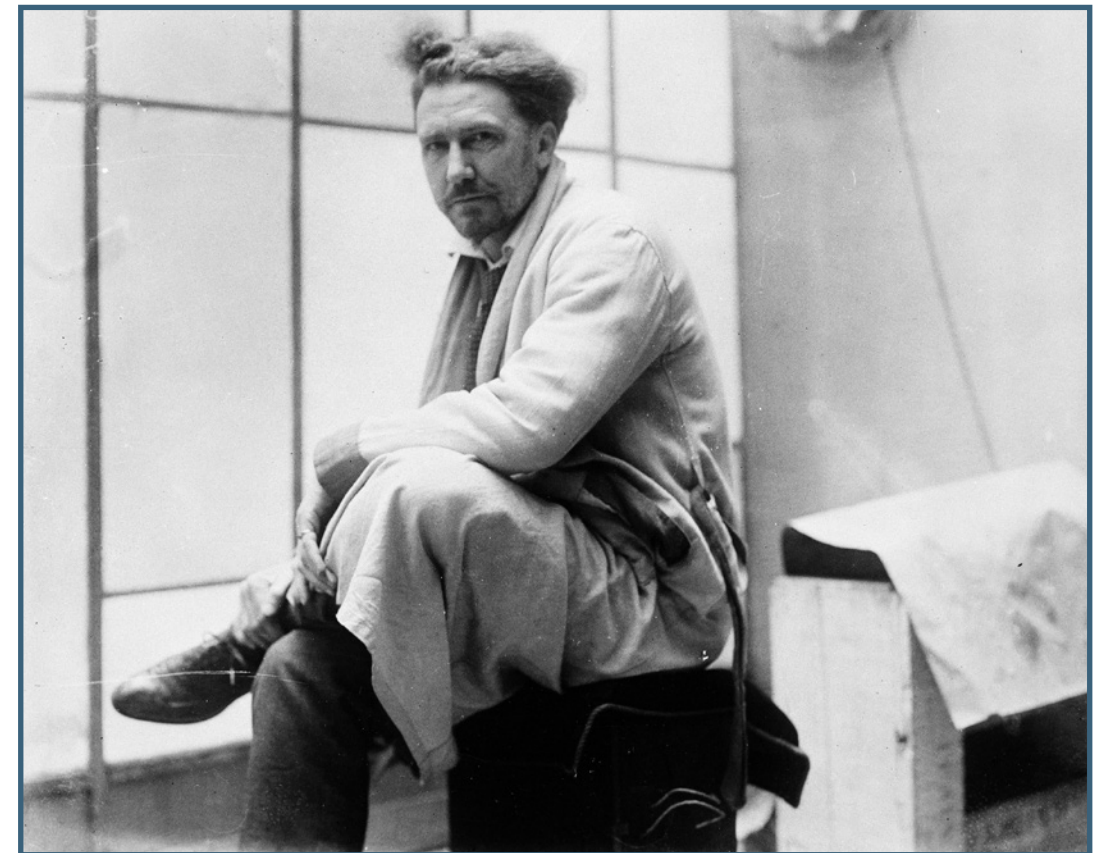




## Ezra Pound

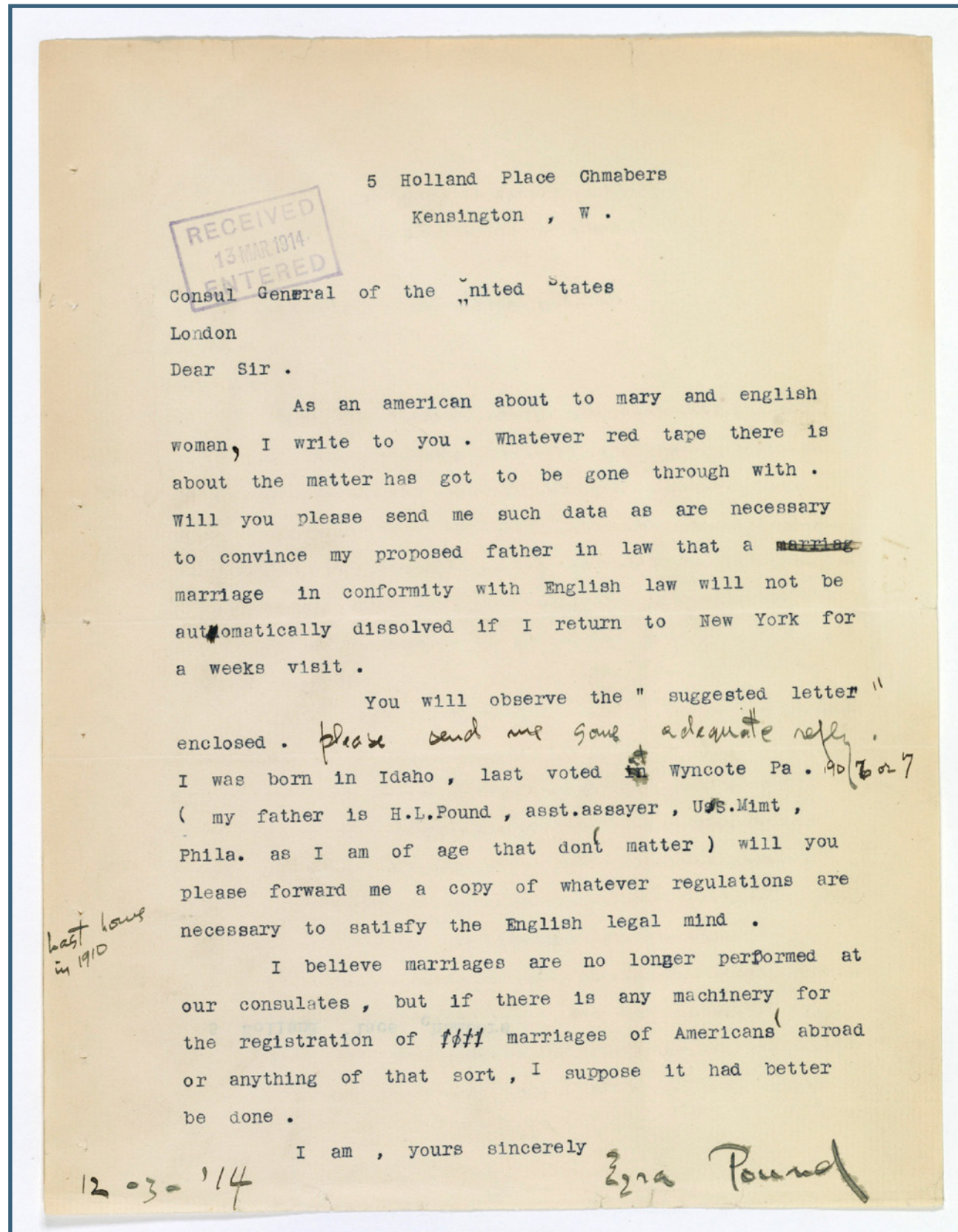
### Mollifying a future father-in-law

In his letter dated March 12, 1914, poet Ezra Pound wrote to the Consul General of the United States in London seeking information that would help him ease the reservations of his future father-in-law that Pound's marriage to his daughter would be invalid if he returned to the United States. Pound is a well-known and influential poet, but at the time of this letter, he was a struggling artist.



Ezra Pound, 1923

National Archives, Records of the United States Information Agency



Letter from Ezra Pound to the Consul General of the United States

National Archives, Records of the Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State



Jump to  
Infamous



See All  
Signatures





# Michael Jackson

## Defying gravity

Singer, songwriter, dancer, inventor?

Michael Jackson started performing at age six with his brothers as the Jackson Five, and grew up to become an internationally famous, award-winning star known as the “King of Pop.” This patent for a shoe that allows the “wearer to lean forwardly beyond his center of gravity” was created by Jackson and two other designers, so he could perform live on stage a signature move that

he’d previously done in the music video for “Smooth Criminal.” The trick had previously been accomplished for the “Smooth Criminal” video using wires. Jackson was known for using unique moves like this and the Moonwalk to enhance his stage performances.

4. Triumph International, Inc. has not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and is under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern or a nonprofit organization, under 37 C.F.R. §1.9.

5. Triumph International, Inc. is entitled to status as a small entity, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.9 and 1.27(a) and (b), in view of the above.

6. All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and all statements made herein on information and belief are believed to be true.

7. These statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

TRIUMPH INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Date: August 25, 1992 By Michael J. Jackson, President

PATMISC\T114382.619

2

EXPRESS MAIL NO. RB905057417

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AUG 31 1992  
PAT & TRADEMARK OFF.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
MICHAEL J. JACKSON, MICHAEL L. )  
BUSH, AND DENNIS B. TOMPKINS )

For: METHOD AND MEANS FOR )  
CREATING ANTI-GRAVITY )  
ILLUSION )

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL J. JACKSON  
IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING STATUS OF  
TRIUMPH INTERNATIONAL, INC. AS A SMALL  
ENTITY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.27

I, MICHAEL J. JACKSON, declare that:

1. I am the President of Triumph International, Inc.,  
empowered to act on behalf of Triumph International, Inc.

2. Triumph International, Inc. is the assignee of  
United States patent application, for "METHOD AND MEANS FOR  
CREATING ANTI-GRAVITY ILLUSION," and to the invention  
described therein, pursuant to Assignment of August 25  
June 1992.

3. Exclusive rights to the invention have been  
conveyed to, and remain with, Triumph International, Inc.,  
pursuant to the Assignment identified in Paragraph 2 hereof.

PATMISC\T114382.619 1

Declaration of Michael J. Jackson in Support of Establishing Status of Triumph International, Inc. as a Small Entity, August 25, 1992

National Archives, Records of the Patent and Trademark Office



Jump to  
Infamous



See All  
Signatures





APPROVED O.G. FIG. 7  
BY CLASS SUBCLASS  
DRAFTSMAN 036 113.00

4382  
SM 3 OF 4

Fig. 7

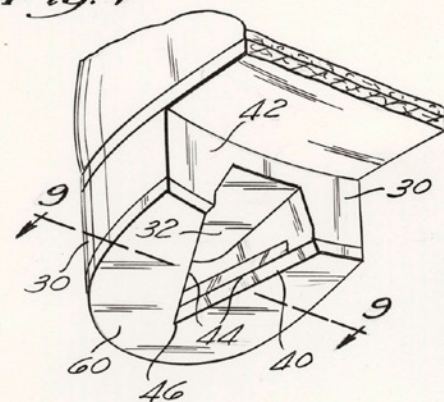


Fig. 10

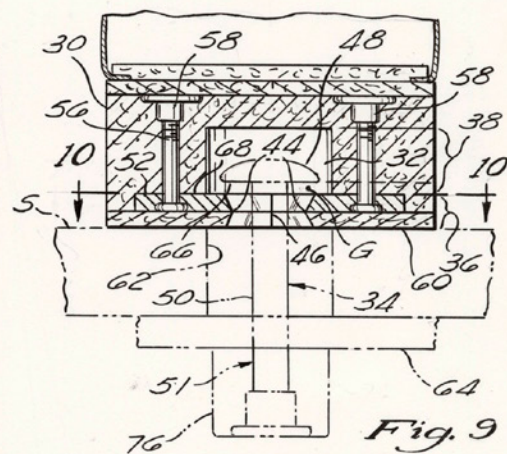
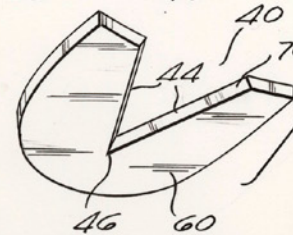
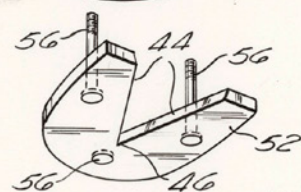
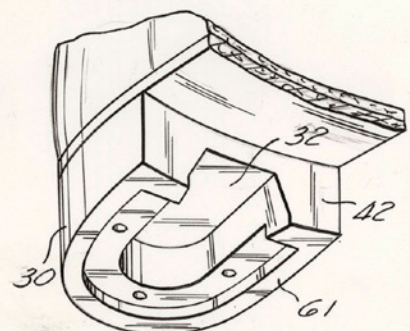
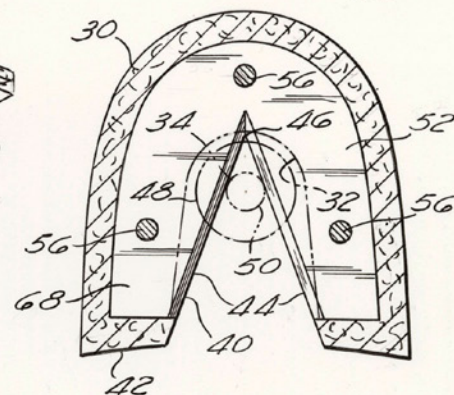


Fig. 8

APPROVED O.G. FIG.  
BY CLASS SUBCLASS  
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4382  
SM 2 OF 4

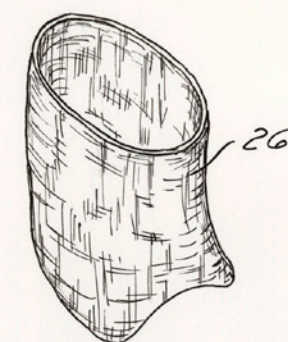


Fig. 4

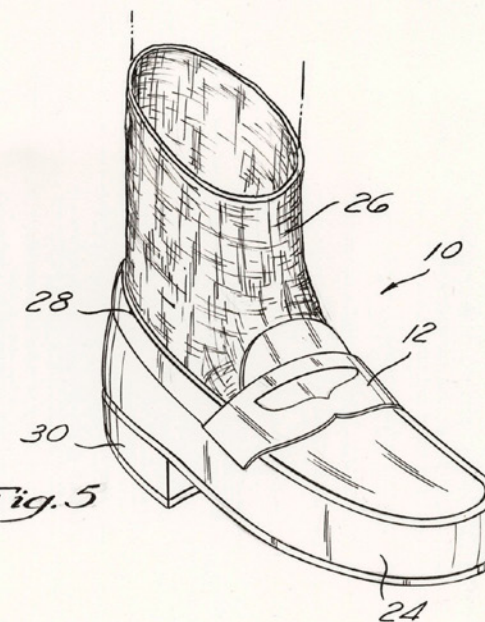


Fig. 5

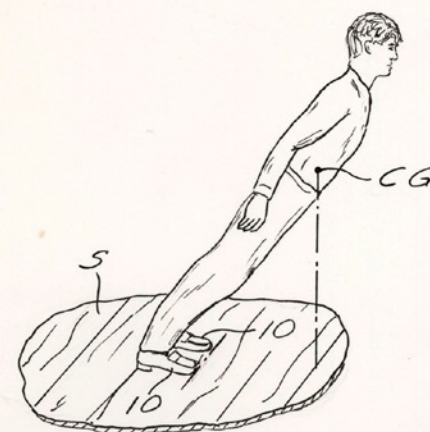


Fig. 6



Fig. 14

Patent #5,255,452, submitted by Michael Jackson, October 26, 1993

National Archives, Records of the Patent and Trademark Office



Jump to  
Infamous

See All  
Signatures





## Infamous

These three examples are a small selection of some of the infamous signatures that are preserved in the National Archives. Each has a unique story. From captured records to a greeting card, read on to find out more about the stories behind their signatures.



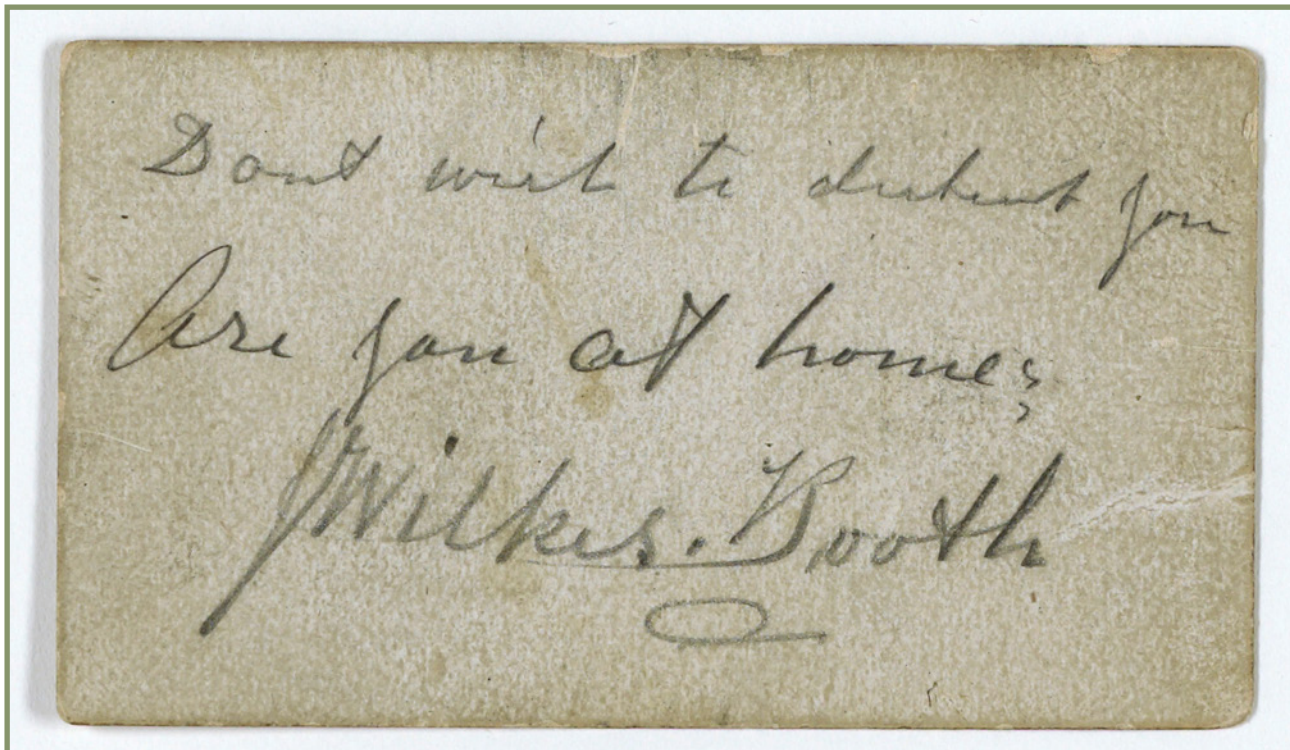


## John Wilkes Booth

**“Don’t wish to disturb you. Are you at home?”**

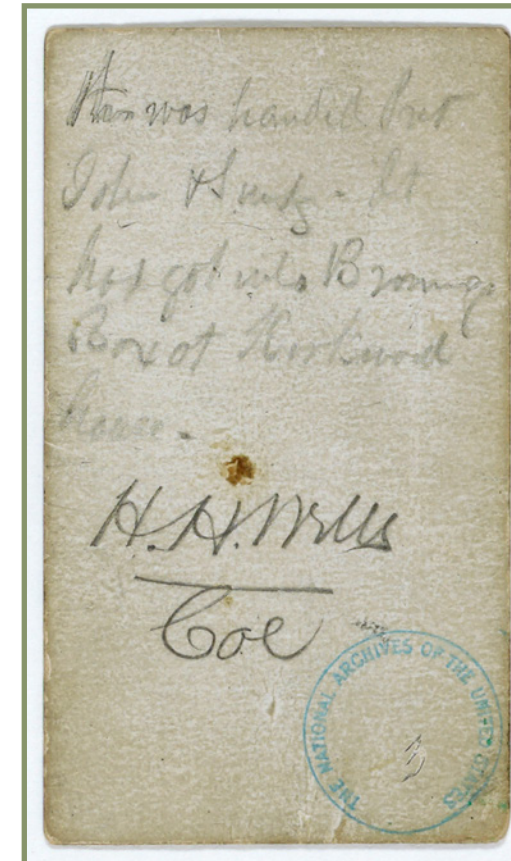
Originally, John Wilkes Booth designed an elaborate plan to kidnap Abraham Lincoln and take him to Richmond. Once a hostage, the Confederacy would demand that prisoner exchanges

resume. (Previously, the Union and Confederate armies had an agreement to exchange prisoners. This fell apart when the Confederacy refused to exchange black soldiers.) However, at his second inaugural, Lincoln revealed some of his early plans for Reconstruction, which included giving blacks the right to vote. It was about at that time that Booth’s plans changed from kidnapping to assassination. His plan grew to involve killing numerous high-level individuals.



Calling card left by John Wilkes Booth

National Archives, Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Army)



On the afternoon of April 14, 1865, just hours before he assassinated President Lincoln, John Wilkes Booth left this calling card for Vice President Andrew Johnson at his Washington, DC, hotel. Booth’s co-conspirator George Atzerodt was to kill Johnson that night, but he lost his nerve and did not make an attempt. Historians continue to debate why Booth left his card with Johnson.





## Adolf Hitler

**“Are you willing to take Our Fuehrer Adolf Hitler as your husband”**

In the early morning of April 29, 1945, as Soviet troops closed in on his bunker, Adolf Hitler married his longtime companion Eva Braun. Less than 40 hours after their marriage, the newlyweds committed suicide together. In his will, Hitler states that Eva “goes to death with me as my wife, according to her own desires.”

Marriage certificate:

In this volume is Adolf and Eva Hitler’s marriage certificate signed by them and by witnesses Joseph Goebbels and Martin Bormann, as well as the registrar of marriage they pulled in from Berlin just before 1am to perform the ceremony.

Final will and testament:

Also in this volume is Adolf Hitler’s final will and political testament, signed by him and by witnesses Joseph Goebbels, Martin Bormann, and Lt. Col. Nicholas von Below. This was created and made official the night he married Eva Braun. Three copies were made and sent out of Berlin.

Eva Braun's Album, ca. 1913 to 1944

National Archives, National Archives

Collection of Foreign Records Seized,

1675-1958



Jump to  
Signature  
Style



See All  
Signatures



Weihnachten, / Dezember 1939 / 1940.  
Berghof.

242-EB-8





- 2 -

Die Erschienenen zu 1 und 2 erklären, daß sie rein arischer Abstammung und mit keiner die Eheschließung ausschließenden Erbkrankheiten befallen sind. Sie beantragen mit Rücksicht auf die Kriegsereignisse wegen außerordentlicher Umstände die Kriegstraumung und beantragen weiter das Aufgebot mündlich entgegenzunehmen und von sämtlichen Fristen Abstand zu nehmen.

Den Anträgen wird stattgegeben. Das mündlich abgegebene Aufgebot ist geprüft und für ordnungsgemäß befunden worden.

Ich komme nunmehr zum feierlichen Akt der Eheschließung. In Gegenwart der obengenannten Zeugen zu 3 und 4 frage ich Sie,

*Herrn Adolf Hitler*  
ob Sie gewillt sind, die Ehe mit  
*Bräutigam Frau Braun*  
einzugehen. In diesem Falle bitte ich Sie, mit "ja" zu antworten.

ob Sie gewillt sind, die Ehe mit  
*Bräutigam Adolf Hitler*  
einzugehen. In diesem Falle bitte ich auch Sie mit "ja" zu antworten.

Nachdem nunmehr beide Verlobte die Erklärung abgegeben haben die Ehe einzugehen, erkläre ich die Ehe vor dem Gesetz rechtmäßig für geschlossen.

Berlin, am 29. April 1945

Vorgelesen und unterschrieben:

- 1.) Ehemann: *Adolf Hitler*
- 2.) Ehefrau: *Bräutigam geb. Braun*
- 3.) Zeuge zu 1: *Dr. Franz Gumbel*
- 4.) Zeuge zu 2: *Dr. Gumbel*
- 5.) *Dr. Gumbel*  
als Standesbeamter

arbeiterinnen, an der Spitze meinen alten Sekretären, Sekretärinnen, Frau Winter, usw., die mich jahrelang durch ihre Arbeit unterstützten.

Ich selbst und meine Gattin wählen, um der Schande des Absetzens oder der Kapitulation zu entgehen, den Tod. Es ist unser Wille, sofort an der Stelle verbrannt zu werden, an der ich den grössten Teil meiner täglichen Arbeit im Laufe eines zwölfjährigen Dienstes an meinem Volke geleistet habe.

Gegeben zu Berlin, den 29. April 1945, 4.00 Uhr

*als Zeugen:*  
*Martin L.*  
*Dr. Gumbel*  
*als Zeugen:*  
*Nicolaus von Helldorf*

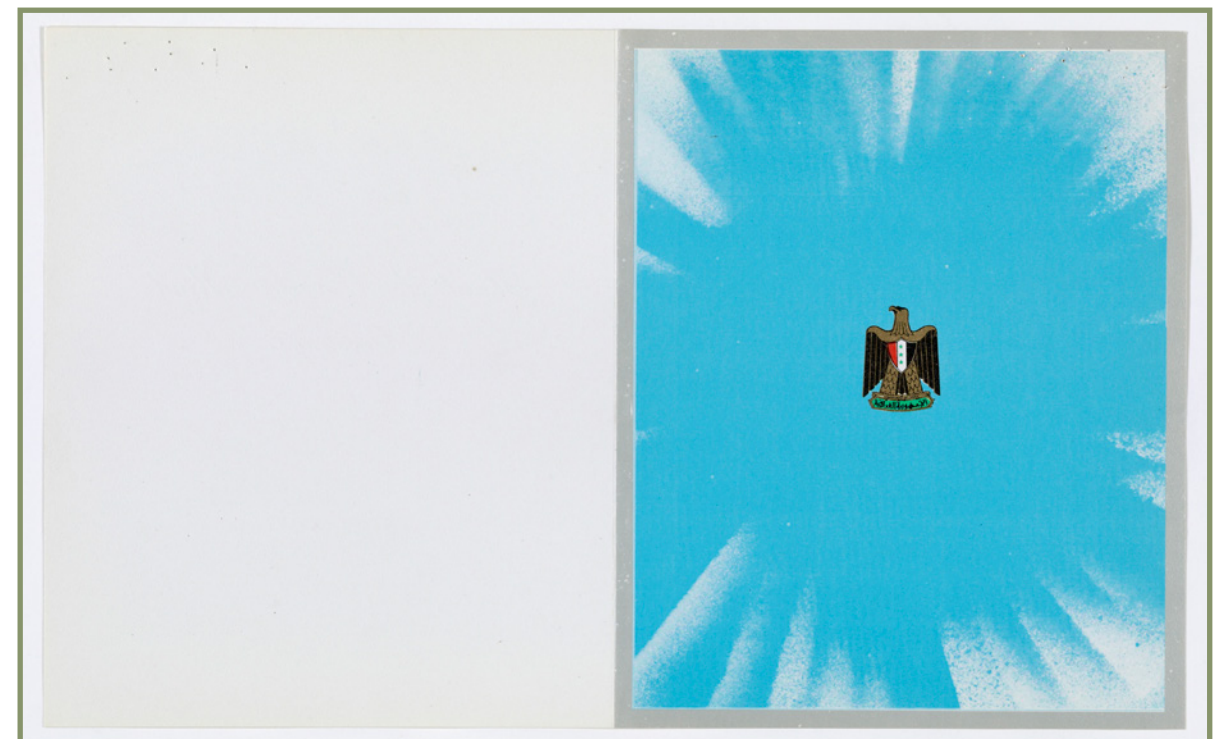
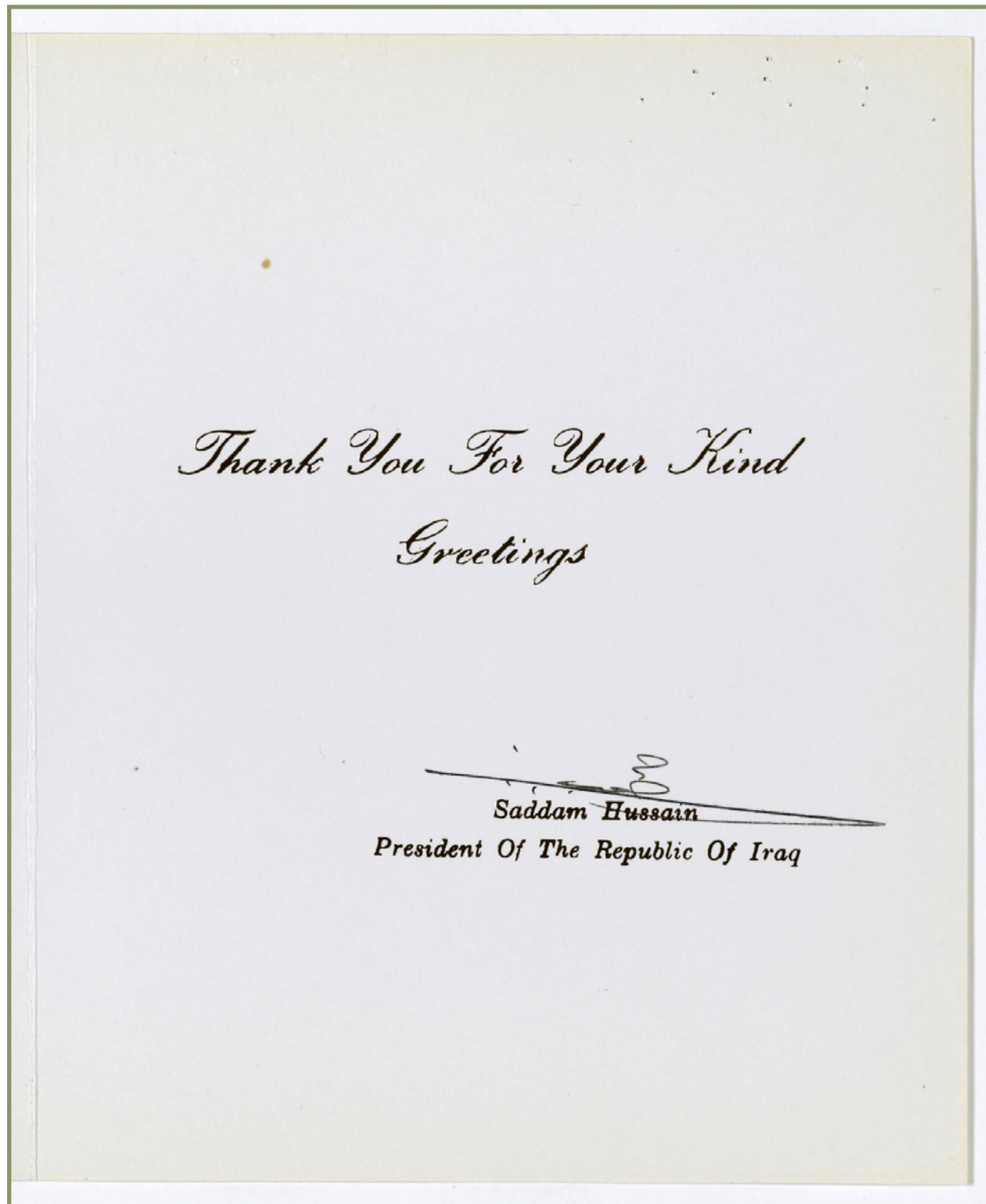




## Saddam Hussein

### “Thank you for your kind greetings”

This card was sent to President George H.W. Bush in February of 1989 by President of the Republic of Iraq Saddam Hussein to congratulate Bush on his inauguration as the new President of the United States. Most heads of states send notes such as these as a courtesy when a new President takes office.



Card from Saddam Hussein to President Bush

National Archives, George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum





## Signature Style

From signature looks to signature works, these individuals made their mark in film, photography, politicking, or their clothing choices. General

Eisenhower was looking for a practical garment when he asked for the standard issue field jacket to be tailored for him, creating what came to be known as the "Ike jacket." President Johnson had a unique way of achieving his political goals, and First Lady Michelle Obama is recognized for her own signature style. What qualities makes something "signature"?





# Jacqueline Kennedy

## Jackie's pillbox hat

This pillbox hat, worn during her husband's 1960 campaign for President, was one of Jackie Kennedy's signature looks. The First Lady became a fashion icon for women around the world, wearing pillbox hats, gloves above the elbow, A-line dresses, oversized sunglasses, and strands of pearls.



Jackie's pillbox hat

*John F. Kennedy Presidential Library  
and Museum, National Archives*



# Franklin Roosevelt

## FDR's Fedora

Few personal accessories are more closely associated with FDR than the fedora. This felt fedora, made by Cavanaugh, ca. 1931, was worn by him.



**FDR's fedora**

*Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*



**Franklin D. Roosevelt talks with Chaplain Crawford W. Brown at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas**

*Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*



# Dwight Eisenhower

## The “Ike” jacket

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower considered the Army’s World War II military uniform to be restricting and poorly suited for combat. Instead, he had a standard issue wool field jacket tailored to be “very short, very comfortable, and very natty looking.” The resulting “Eisenhower jacket” or “Ike jacket,” as it came to be known, was standard issue to American troops after November 1944. This “Ike jacket” was worn by Eisenhower.



Eisenhower’s “Ike” jacket

*Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*



General Eisenhower wearing an “Ike jacket,” 1943

*Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*



# Lyndon Johnson

## The “Johnson Treatment”

Standing at 6 feet 4 inches tall, President Lyndon Baines Johnson used his imposing stature as one tool in his own brand of political persuasion, known as the Johnson “treatment.” LBJ used his “treatment,” shown in these photographs, to intimidate, badger, flatter, or plead in order to achieve his political goals.



President Johnson and Louis Martin at the reception for Democratic National Committee delegates, April 20, 1966

*Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives*



President Johnson with Senator Richard Russell at the White House, December 7, 1963

*Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives and Records Administration*



# Michelle Obama

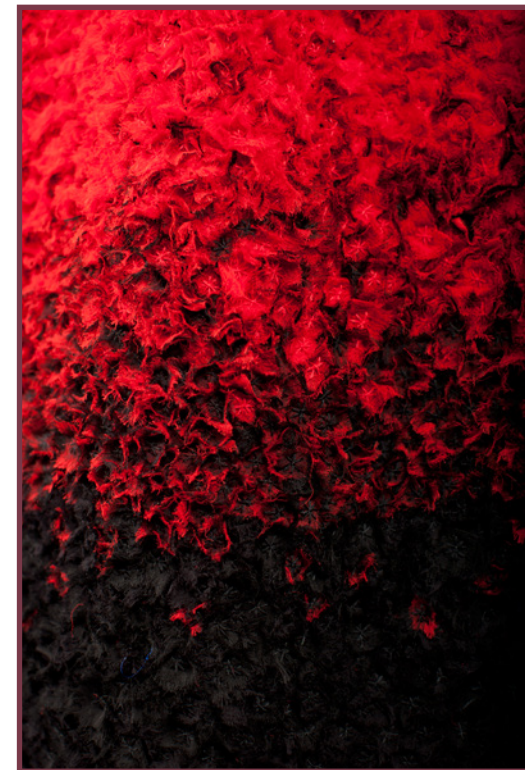
## Signature style

First Lady Michelle Obama wore this Narcisco Rodriguez dress on the night of the 2008 Presidential election, when Barack Obama was elected as the first African American President of the United States. Since then, the First Lady's signature issues have taken the spotlight—from helping kids get healthy, to supporting our military families, to ensuring that all our young people work hard to reach their dreams. And her clothing choices have supported her work. As Mrs. Obama said, “I always say that women should wear whatever makes them feel good about themselves. That's what I always try to do. . . . I also believe that if you're comfortable in your clothes, it's easy to connect with people and make them feel comfortable as well. In every interaction that I have with people, I always want to show them my most authentic self.”



Michelle Obama's dress

National Archives, Courtesy of the Presidential Materials Division



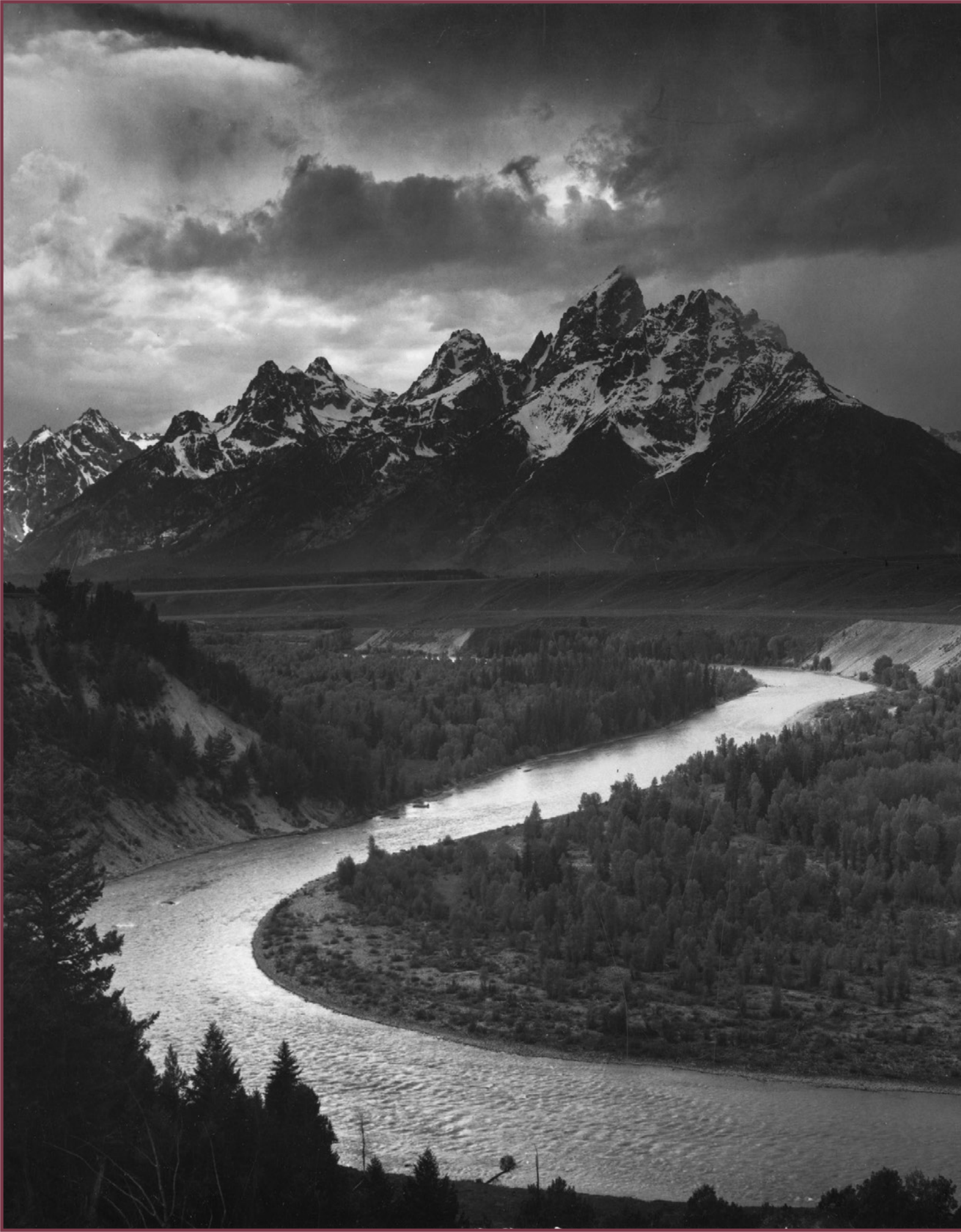




# Ansel Adams

## Activism through art

Ansel Adams's photographs are some of our nation's most recognizable images of the American West. Adams was an activist and an artist, and his signature black-and-white photographs were influential in the creation of new national parks and wilderness preservation efforts. In 1941 Adams was commissioned by the Department of the Interior to create a photo mural for its building in Washington, DC, with the theme "nature as exemplified and protected in the U.S. National Parks." The project was halted because of World War II and finally completed in 2010.



"The Tetons – Snake  
river," 1942

*National Archives,  
Records of the  
National Park Service*



**Jump to  
Official  
Business**



**See All  
Signatures**





# Dorothea Lange

## Influence and Legacy

Dorothea Lange believed that her role as a photographer was to promote political and social change by documenting compelling scenes, as in this photo of jobless men lined up to claim unemployment benefits. Lange worked as a photographer for several government agencies, including the Resettlement Administration (the predecessor to the Farm Security Administration) and the War Relocation Authority. Her photographs of the rural poor and migrant workers during the Great Depression, notably her “Migrant Mother,” are iconic.



Jobless men lined up in California  
to file claims for unemployment  
compensation, 1938

*National Archives, Records of the  
Social Security Administration*



**Jump to  
Official  
Business**



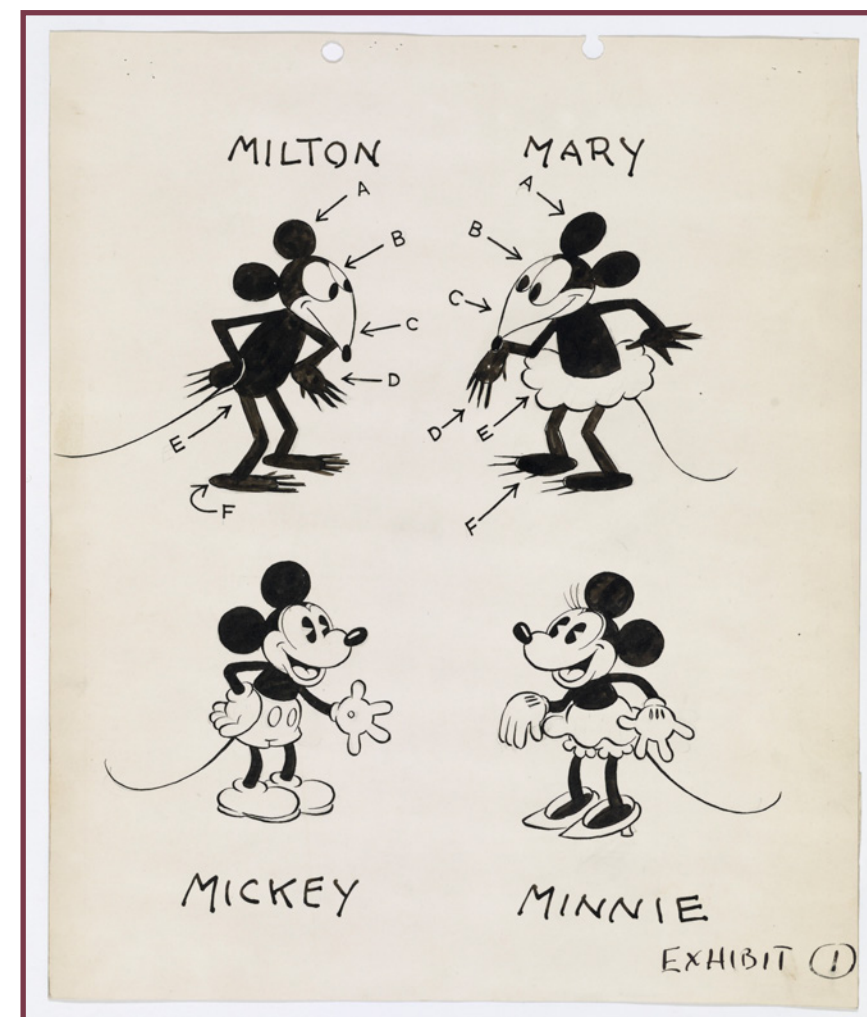
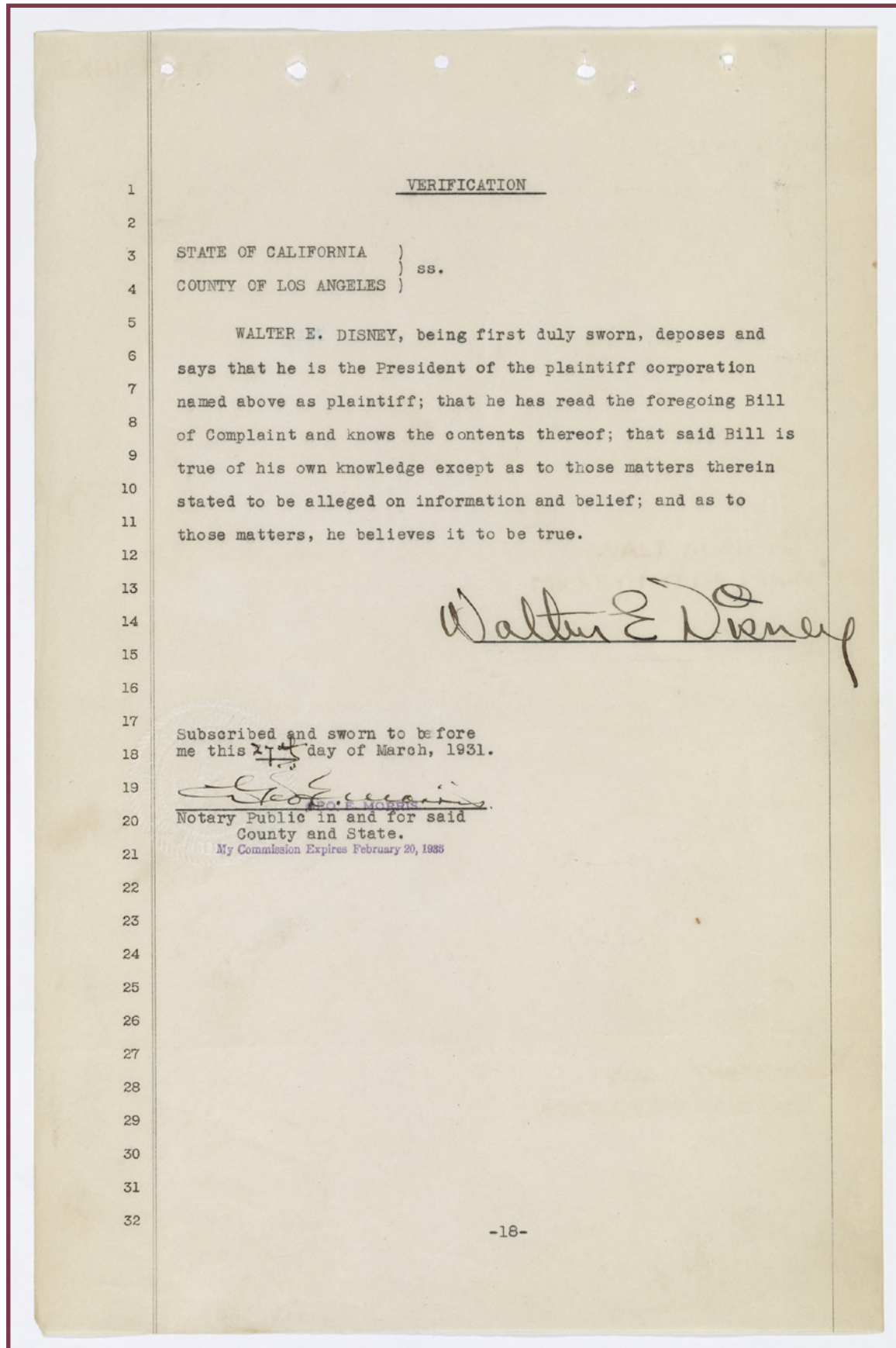
**See All  
Signatures**



# Walt Disney

## Mickey and Minnie vs. Milton and Mary

Few cartoon characters are more recognizable around the world than Mickey Mouse and his girlfriend Minnie Mouse. This early copyright infringement case came just a few years after Mickey and Minnie Mouse had been copyrighted and trademarked. Walt Disney won his case against the creators of Mickey and Minnie look-a-likes Milton and Mary. The defendants, the Pathé Exchange and Van Beuren Corporation, were barred from ever using Milton or Mary in another animated film.



Pages from copyright infringement case for Walt Disney

National Archives at Riverside, Records of District Courts of the United States





## Official Business

The day-to-day business of the Federal Government can reveal some surprising finds. Famous names, before they became famous, appear on applications for Federal jobs. The Father of our Country asks for guidance from Congress. Draft registrations were signed by the famous and little-known alike. A famous signature can turn a routine document into a treasure. Which story in these files do you find most intriguing?







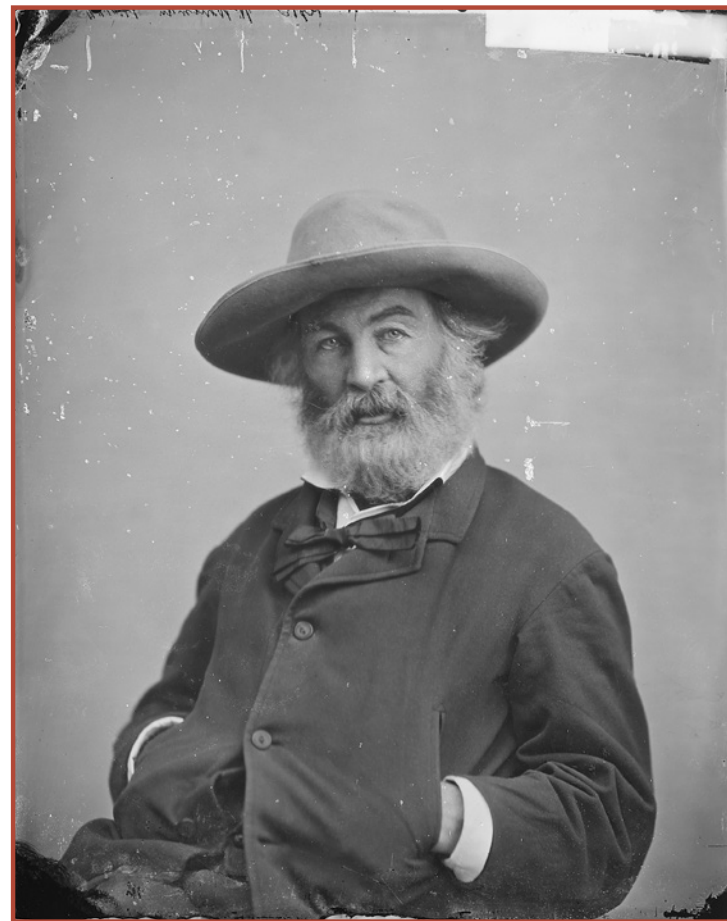
## Emerson recommends Whitman

### A job referral for a poet?

*"will you permit me today that he is known to me as a man of strong, original genius, combining, with marked eccentricities, great powers & valuable traits of character & a self-relying large-hearted man, much beloved by his friends; entirely patriotic and benevolent in his theory, talks, & practice."*

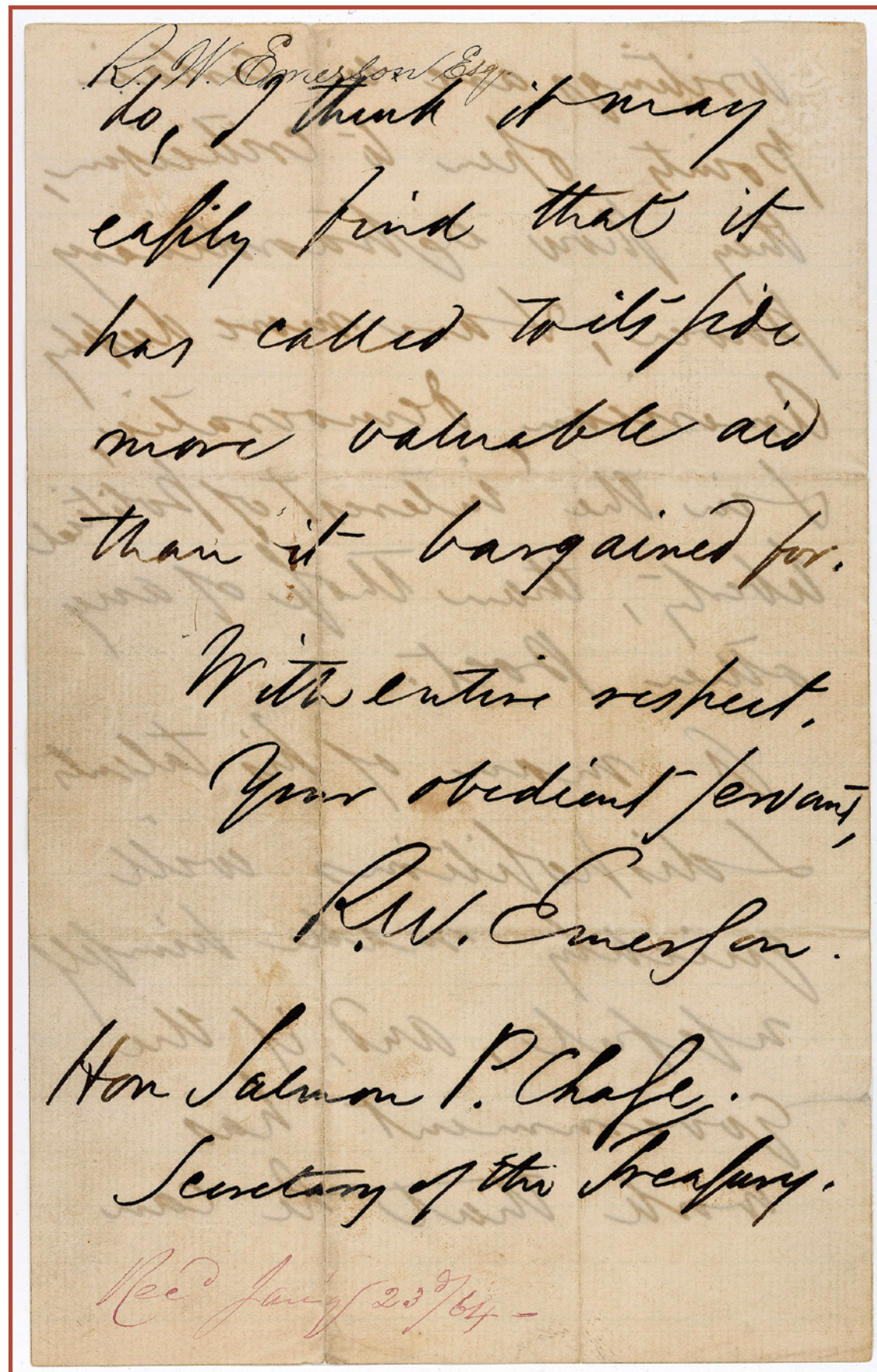
In 1863, Whitman sought the aid of fellow author Ralph Waldo Emerson in obtaining a position in the Government. They had

maintained contact ever since Whitman asked Emerson for his opinion of "Leaves of Grass." Emerson's response to Whitman was, "I greet you at the beginning of a great career." Later, Emerson wrote on Whitman's behalf to Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase. He was not hired, but Whitman obtained a position in the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



Walt Whitman, ca. 1866

National Archives, Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer



Letter from Ralph Waldo Emerson, January 10, 1863

National Archives, General Records of the Department of the Treasury





## Julia Child

### From top-secret researcher to cookbook author and TV personality

Before she was a well-known TV personality and cookbook author, Julia Child, worked for the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), precursor to the CIA, during World War II. Known then as Julia McWilliams, she began as a typist, but because of her experience and education was eventually promoted to research assistant. Not only did she play a role in communications between U.S. Government officials and intelligence officers, often having access to top-secret documents, but she was able to travel the world while on different assignments. In 1945, while on assignment in Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) she met fellow OSS employee and future husband, Paul Child. This application, which is in her handwriting, includes a memo in which she explains her “forced resignation” from a previous job.

25. IF YOU HAVE ESTABLISHED MILITARY PREFERENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, CHECK (✓) THE KIND OF PREFERENCE: 5-POINT .....; DISABILITY .....; WIFE OF DISABLED VETERAN .....; WIDOW OF VETERAN .....
26. IF YOU ARE RECEIVING A PENSION OR COMPENSATION FROM THE VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION, STATE PARTICULARS (IF FOR DISABILITY, STATE PERCENTAGE AND NATURE).....
27. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN DISMISSED FOR CAUSE OR FORCED TO RESIGN FROM ANY EMPLOYMENT? yes IF ANSWER IS "YES" DESCRIBE CIRCUMSTANCES FULLY ON SEPARATE SHEET AND ATTACH TO THIS FORM. (Yes or No)
28. ARE ANY MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY OR RELATIVES (EITHER BLOOD OR BY MARRIAGE) IN ANY PART OF THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES (EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL, LEGISLATIVE, MILITARY, OR NAVAL)? ANSWER "YES" OR "NO" yes IF SO, FILL IN THE FOLLOWING BLANKS STATING, UNDER "RELATIONSHIP," WHETHER THE CONNECTION IS BY BLOOD OR MARRIAGE. IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NECESSARY, ATTACH A SHEET.

NAME	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS (Give street number, if any)	POSITION AND DEPARTMENT OR OFFICE IN WHICH EMPLOYED	RELATIONSHIP	MARRIED OR SINGLE
JOHN McWILLIAMS	1207 S. Pasadena Ave PASADENA CALIFORNIA	Position <u>CAPTAIN</u> Department or office <u>U.S. ARMY</u>	<u>FATHER</u>	<u>MARRIED</u>
		Position.....		
		Department or office.....		
		Position.....		
		Department or office.....		

29. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED, INDICTED, OR CONVICTED FOR ANY VIOLATION OF LAW OTHER THAN A MINOR TRAFFIC VIOLATION? IF "YES," STATE NAME OF COURT, NATURE OF OFFENSE, YOUR AGE AT THE TIME, AND DISPOSITION OF YOUR CASE. No

30. HOW MANY WORKING DAYS HAVE YOU LOST IN THE PAST TWO YEARS BECAUSE OF ILLNESS? None DAYS. NATURE OF ILLNESS, .....

31. ARE YOU A MEMBER OF ANY PARTY OR ORGANIZATION WHICH ADVOCATED THE OVERTHROW OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES? No (Yes or No)

32. MAY WE COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR PRESENT EMPLOYER? ..... (Yes or No)

33. GIVE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF FIVE PERSONS OTHER THAN RELATIVES WHO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR CHARACTER, EXPERIENCE, AND ABILITY:

FULL NAME	FULL ADDRESS	OCCUPATION
1. MRS. PETER BELIN	3132 O Street NW, W.D.C.	Housewife
2. Mrs. Turner McBAIRD	2233 BANCROFT Pl., W.D.C.	"
3. A.W. FORESTER	575-5th Ave. New York	Advertising Director
4. Mrs. MARJORIE WILLIAMS	4811 EL MOLINO, PASADENA, CALIF.	Am. Red. Cross Exec. Sec'y.
5. COL. J.B. BOSWELL	HELLMAN Bldg. Los Angeles	BUSINESS MAN

34. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, NOTIFY—

Name	Street address
JOHN McWILLIAMS	1207 S. Pasadena Ave.
Relationship	Telephone
<u>FATHER</u>	<u>SY 9-1084</u>
City and State	
<u>PASADENA, CALIF.</u>	

I CERTIFY that the foregoing statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. (Any false statement is sufficient cause for rejection of the application or dismissal after appointment.)

(The Coordinator of Information reserves the right to investigate all statements made in this application. Copies of publications or other data may be submitted with this application to support your candidacy.)

(Signature) Julia C. McWilliams  
(Sign one given name, middle initial or initials, if you have any, and your surname)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-23265





## Richard Nixon

### A future President for FBI special agent

Here we see Richard M. Nixon's famous signature from a time when his future was unknown. Upon graduating from Duke Law School in 1937, Nixon submitted this application to be a special agent in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). After his interview with the FBI, he never received a response. Assuming he didn't get the job, Nixon returned home to California, passed the bar, and began practicing law. It wasn't until Nixon was Vice President of the United States that he learned what happened with his application. Director of the FBI J. Edgar Hoover told him that he had been accepted as a special agent, but that due to budget cuts, his appointment was held back.

RECEIVED

4

24. List the names of any relatives now in the Government service, with the degree of relationship, and where employed:

None

25. What is the lowest entrance salary you will accept? Standard for special agents

26. Are you in a position to accept probationary employment at any time, without previous notice, and, if notice is required, how much? Yes - no notice necessary

27. In the event of appointment will you be willing to proceed to Washington, D.C., upon 10 days' notice and at your own expense? Yes

28. If appointed are you willing and prepared to accept assignment or transfer to any part of the United States where services are required, for either temporary or permanent duration? Yes

29. Attach a photograph not larger than 3 by 4 inches. Write your name plainly on the back of the photograph to be taken not more than 30 days prior to date of application.

Respectfully,

Richard M. Nixon  
(Signature of applicant as usually written)

NOTE.—If the applicant desires to make any further remarks or statements concerning his qualifications or in answer to any question contained in the application, the same should be made on a separate sheet of paper, numbering the remarks in accordance with the original questions.

30. Give five personal references (not relatives, former employers, or persons with whom you have been in any court action) to be subscribed to by all applicants for positions in the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

to before me by the above-named applicant, this 29 day of April, 1937, at city (or town) of Durham, county of Durham, and State (or Territory or District) of North Carolina

Lena E. Wilson  
(Signature of officer)  
notary Public  
(Official title)

[OFFICIAL IMPRESSION SEAL]

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 7-2092

my comm. expires  
Jan. 15, 1939.

Richard Nixon's application to be an FBI special agent, April 29, 1937

National Archives, Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

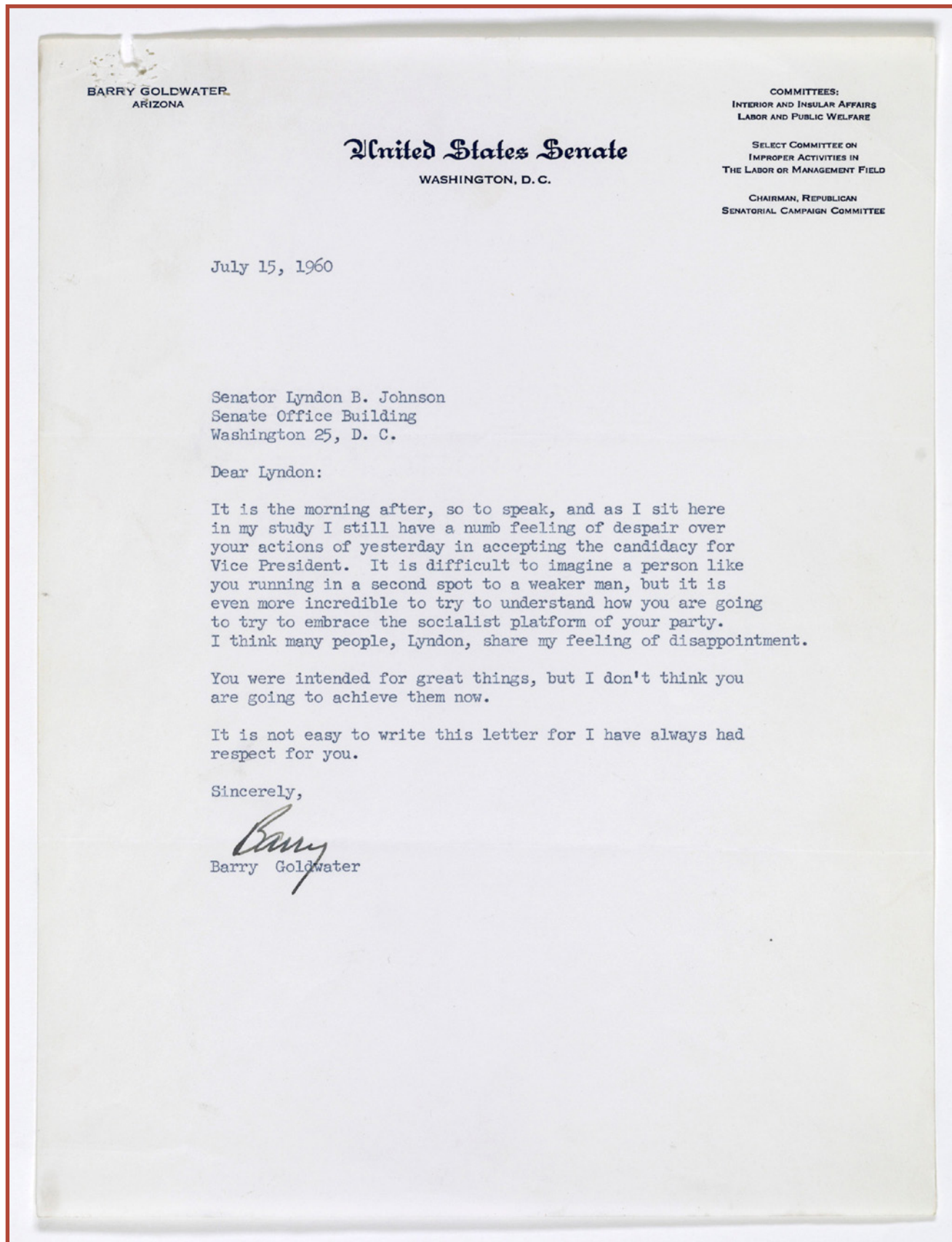




## Barry Goldwater

### From Senators across the aisle to competing Presidential candidates

Signed “Barry,” Senator Barry Goldwater wrote Senator Lyndon Johnson bluntly expressing his disappointment at of Johnson’s acceptance of the Democratic candidacy for Vice President. He wrote, “you were intended for great things, but I don’t think you are going to achieve them now.” Goldwater’s prediction did not quite come true, as four years later Johnson defeated Goldwater in the 1964 Presidential election by one of the largest landslides in history.



Letter from Barry Goldwater to Lyndon Johnson

Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives





## Selective Service Cards

### Registering for the World War I draft

As World War I began, the United States Army was fairly small, and by 1916, it was clear that more troops were needed if the United States were to enter the conflict. Initially, President Wilson desired an army made up of volunteers and wanted 1 million men, but six weeks after declaring war, only 73,000 had volunteered to serve.

On May 18, 1917, Congress passed the Selective Service Act. It authorized the Federal Government to expand the military. The act provided that all men between the ages of 21 to 30 were required to register for military service. Later, it was amended to include men up to age 45. The significant difference for this draft from the previous one, which was for the American Civil War, was that men were not allowed to hire a substitute if they did not want to serve.

Approximately 24 million men registered, which was almost a quarter of the population in 1918. Not all men who registered actually served. By the end of World War I, 2.8 million had been drafted and 2 million men had volunteered. When the armistice ending the war was signed on November 11, 1918, the activities of the Selective Service System greatly decreased, and by 1919 all activities were terminated.

REGISTRATION CARD				
SERIAL NUMBER 1145	ORDER NUMBER A 3156			
1 Edward Kennedy Ellington (First name) (Middle name) (Last name)				
2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS: 1955-3rd St NW Washington, D.C. (No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)				
Age in Years 3 19	Date of Birth 4 Apr. 29th 1899 (Month.) (Day.) (Year.)			
RACE				
White 5	Negro 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oriental 7	Indian Citizen 8 Noncitizen 9	
U. S. CITIZEN			ALIEN	
Native Born 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Naturalized 11	Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority 12	Declarant 13	Non-declarant 14
15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?				
PRESENT OCCUPATION 16 Messenger		EMPLOYER'S NAME 17 Federal Govt.		
18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: Chief Staff War Dept. Wash. D.C. (No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)				
NEAREST RELATIVE	Name 19 Edna C. Ellington			
	Address 20 1955-3rd St NW Wash. D.C. (No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)			
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE				
P. M. G. O. Form No. 1 (Red)		e3-6171 (Registrant's signature or mark) (OVER)		

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington

National Archives, Records of the Selective Service System





**REGISTRATION CARD**

SERIAL NUMBER 1645 ORDER NUMBER A1839

1 *Harry Handcuff Houdini*  
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS:  
278 W. 113<sup>rd</sup> St. N.Y. N.Y. N.Y.  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

Age in Years 3 44 Date of Birth 4 April 6<sup>th</sup> 1874  
(Month.) (Day.) (Year.)

**RACE**

White	Negro	Oriental	Indian
5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	7	8
U. S. CITIZEN		ALIEN	
Native Born	Naturalized	Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority	Declarant
10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11	12	13

15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?

16 PRESENT OCCUPATION: *Actor*  
*Manager Film*

17 EMPLOYER'S NAME: *Harry A. Houdini*

18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS:  
216 Mechanic St. Hoboken N.J.  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

NEAREST RELATIVE: Name 19 *Beatrice Houdini*  
Address 20 *278 W. 113<sup>rd</sup> St. N.Y. N.Y.*  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE  
P. M. G. O. Form No. 1 (Red) 03-6171 *Harry Handcuff Houdini* (OVER)

Harry Handcuff Houdini

National Archives, Records of the Selective Service System

Form 1 **670** REGISTRATION CARD No. 146

1 *2395* *Norman Rockwell*  
(Given name) (Family name)

2 Home address: *308 Sagamuol St. New Rochelle*  
(No.) (Street) (City) (State)

3 Date of birth: *February 3rd 1894*  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? *Natural born*

5 Where were you born? *New York City, U.S.*  
(Town) (State) (Nation)

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? *Artist*

8 By whom employed? *Freelance*  
Where employed? *New Rochelle*

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? *Wife*

10 Married or single (which)? *Married* Race (specify which)? *Caucasian*

11 What military service have you had? Rank: *None*; branch: *None*  
years: *None*; Nation or State: *None*

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? *No*

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.  
*Norman Rockwell*  
(signature or mark)

If person is of African descent, tear off this corner

Norman Rockwell

National Archives, Records of the Selective Service System

**REGISTRATION CARD**

SERIAL NUMBER 3049 ORDER NUMBER A2840

1 *Alphonse* *Capone*  
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS:  
38 Garfield Place Brooklyn Kings Co. N.Y.  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

Age in Years 3 19 Date of Birth 4 January 17<sup>th</sup> 1899  
(Month.) (Day.) (Year.)

**RACE**

White	Negro	Oriental	Indian
5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	7	8
U. S. CITIZEN		ALIEN	
Native Born	Naturalized	Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority	Declarant
10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11	12	13

15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?

16 PRESENT OCCUPATION: *Paper Cutter*

17 EMPLOYER'S NAME: *United Paper Box Co.*

18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS:  
33 - 34<sup>th</sup> St. Brooklyn Kings Co. N.Y.  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

NEAREST RELATIVE: Name 19 *Mother Theresa Capone*  
Address 20 *38 Garfield Pl. Bklyn Kings Co. N.Y.*  
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE  
P. M. G. O. Form No. 1 (Red) 03-6171 *Alphonse Capone* (OVER)

Alphonse Capone

National Archives, Records of the Selective Service System



Jump to  
Power of  
the Pen



See All  
Signatures





## John Huston

### *Let There Be Light* documentary in the dark for years

John Huston's career as a filmmaker, writer, and actor spanned over four decades. Before becoming an Oscar-winning icon in Hollywood, he made three films for the Army. *Let There Be Light* was his third and final war documentary. Huston used his revolutionary style to create documentaries that are ranked by critics among the finest films ever made about World War II.

Known for unflinching realism—the unscripted interviews featured were uncommon in filmmaking until over a decade later—*Light* followed 75 soldiers suffering from “battle neurosis,” now called Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and chronicled the men and their treatment. Huston wanted to convey that men suffering from PTSD were not failures or cowards, but also “were employable, as trustworthy as anyone.”

In 1946 the Army rejected the film and confiscated the prints, fearing the demoralizing effects it might have on recruitment. Suppressed since 1946, it was premiered to the public in 1980, and preserved and restored by the National Archives.

You can view this film in its entirety and learn more about the preservation and restoration from the National Archives' Motion Picture Preservation Lab, [See the film.](#)



*Let There Be Light*, 1946

National Archives, Records of the  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer







## U.S. Mint Employees

*“We do hereby promise and engage to return to the service of the Mint”*

This petition signed by the employees of the U.S. Mint, on August 31, 1799, was their promise to return to work after the “present prevailing fever is over.” Trying to survive an epidemic, these workers were reluctant to go to their workplace. Just five years earlier, a yellow fever plague took the lives of 10 percent of Philadelphia’s population.

We the Subscribers do hereby promise & engage to  
return to the service of the Mint, as soon as the same  
shall be again opened, after the present prevailing  
fever is over, on the penalty of Twenty Pounds,  
As witnesses our hands this 31 day of  
August 1799 George Water

John Cope  
Lewis Betting  
Geo Breining  
James Anderson  
John Schreiner  
John Birnbaum  
Geyer W. W. Vt

Charles. Prop. The Town

George Bailey  
Johan Mann

Dasarum 3. Brüd  
nicht aufgeführt sind

Sam<sup>l</sup> Thompson  
Deacon, assisting  
Mother, Sarah

### Petition from employees

of the U.S. Mint

National Archives at

*Philadelphia, Records of*

*the U.S. Mint*



43

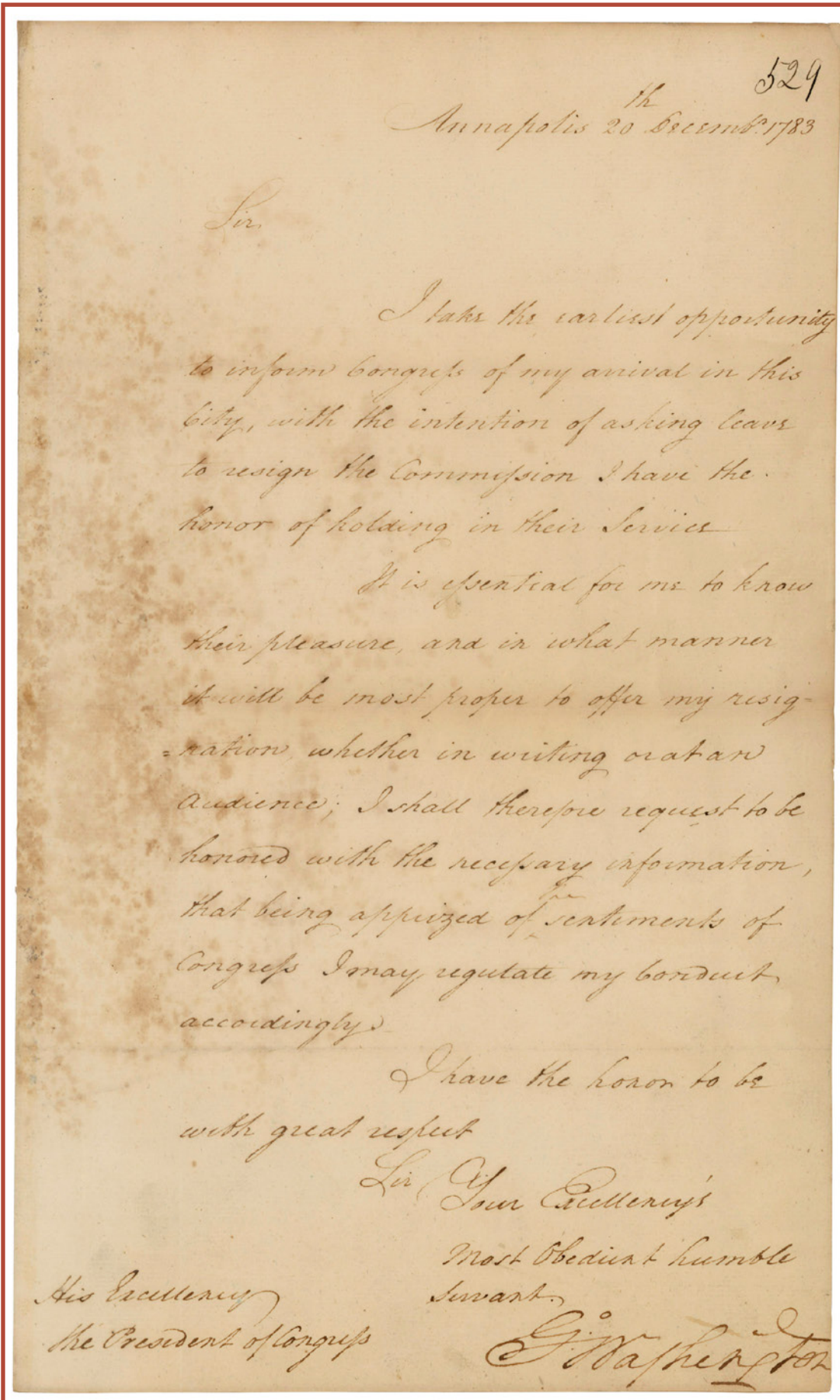




## George Washington

### The commander in chief inquires how he should retire

Gen. George Washington arrived in Annapolis, Maryland, on December 20, 1783, at the end of the Revolutionary War. He penned this note to the Continental Congress asking how they would like him to officially resign, “whether in writing or at an audience” so that he “may regulate his conduct accordingly.” Three days later, before the assembled Congress, he announced his resignation as commander in chief. Washington set many precedents, but this resignation was a precedent in itself: many believed he could have become a king or dictator, but Washington chose to give the power back to Congress.



Letter from Washington to the Continental Congress, December 20, 1783

National Archives, Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention

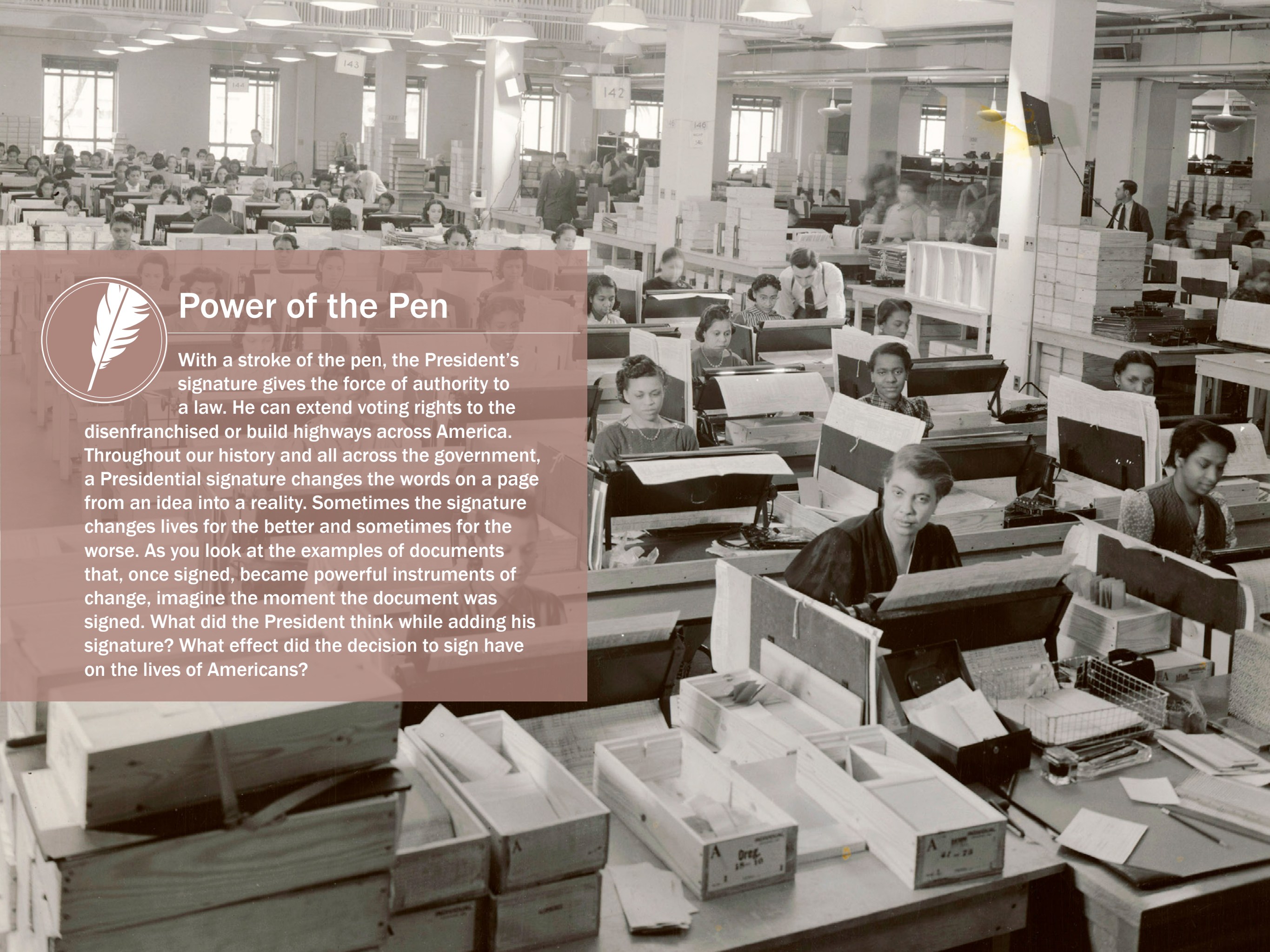






## Power of the Pen

With a stroke of the pen, the President's signature gives the force of authority to a law. He can extend voting rights to the disenfranchised or build highways across America. Throughout our history and all across the government, a Presidential signature changes the words on a page from an idea into a reality. Sometimes the signature changes lives for the better and sometimes for the worse. As you look at the examples of documents that, once signed, became powerful instruments of change, imagine the moment the document was signed. What did the President think while adding his signature? What effect did the decision to sign have on the lives of Americans?







## Recovery and Removal

### Same signature, two outcomes

The “Emergency Fund for the President,” called by different titles at different times, is money reserved for a President’s unanticipated needs. The emergency funds have been used under a variety of circumstances that affect national interests such as disasters, security threats, and national defense. In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt used his \$100 million “Emergency Fund for the President” to recover, mobilize, and protect the country as it moved from peace to war. As these two records illustrate, with the stroke of a pen, the President can bring welcome relief or implement policies that will drastically disrupt the lives of many.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, shocked and outraged the nation. Congress declared war against Japan the following day. Roosevelt quickly deployed his emergency fund to aid Hawaii and help with its recovery after the attack.

A couple of months later, on February 6, 1942, President Roosevelt’s signature allocated more funds for “the removal of enemy aliens ... and for transportation of their dependents, and for the relocation of and temporary aid to enemy aliens or their dependents who have been removed from such prohibited areas or whose normal means of livelihood has been interrupted.”

*“to be expended by the Governor of the Territory of Hawaii in connection with emergencies ... in furnishing refuge for evacuees ...”*

*“to be available for the expenditure ... for the purpose, in making provision for the removal of enemy aliens ...”*

The damage and upheaval resulting from the attack on Pearl Harbor is shown in both of these photos. On the top, is the wreckage at Pearl Harbor. On the bottom, is a young evacuee waiting to be taken with her family to an assembly center.



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





Allocation No. 42-36

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DEC 12 1941

My dear Mr. Secretary:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the provisions of the appropriation entitled "Emergency Fund for the President", contained in the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1942, approved April 5, 1941, I hereby allocate from the fund of \$100,000,000 provided by said appropriation, as follows:

<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Governor of <del>the</del> Territory of Hawaii	\$ 2,800,000

to be expended by the Governor of the Territory of Hawaii in connection with emergencies affecting the national security and defense in furnishing refuge for evacuees in the Territory of Hawaii, by providing temporary sanitary, rough shelter and messing facilities.

The funds hereby allocated shall be available for all necessary expenses of the Governor of the Territory in carrying out the above described activities, including the purchase of supplies, services and materials without regard to Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes, and the advance of funds without regard to Section 3648 of the Revised Statutes.

Please arrange for the necessary transfer of funds and advise the Governor of the Territory of Hawaii accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

*ETD, 12/16/41  
Misc Civil to App Wt #359, 12/13/41*

Letter signed by FDR that money

be disbursed for recovery

National Archives, Records of the

Bureau of Accounts (Treasury)

*Misc FAX #488, 2/7*  
Allotment No. 42-74

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

FEB 6 1942

My dear Mr. Secretary:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the provisions of the appropriation entitled "Emergency Fund for the President," contained in the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1942, approved April 5, 1941, I hereby make the following allocation:

<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
The Administrator of the Federal Security Agency	\$ 500,000

to be available for expenditure through such public or private agents or agencies as said Administrator may designate for the purpose, in making provision for the removal of enemy aliens excluded from designated areas pursuant to authority contained in Proclamations No. 2525, of December 7, 1941, No. 2526 and No. 2527 of December 8, 1941, as amended, and for transportation of their dependents, and for the relocation of and temporary aid to enemy aliens or their dependents who have been removed from such prohibited areas or whose normal means of livelihood has been interrupted by reason of restrictions imposed by the Attorney General.

The funds hereby allocated shall be available for all necessary expenses in carrying out the above described activities, including the procurement of supplies, services and materials without regard to Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes; the advance of funds without regard to Section 3648 of the Revised Statutes; and the employment of personnel without regard to the civil service classification laws.

Please arrange for the necessary transfer of funds and advise the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency.

Sincerely yours,

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Letter signed by FDR that money be

disbursed for the removal of enemy aliens

National Archives, Records of the Bureau

of Accounts (Treasury)



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Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





## Signing Power

**This next series of stories are connected. Each one represents a branch of our Federal government:**

Acts of Congress are joint resolutions, meaning a majority in both houses voted in favor of them. For an Act of Congress to carry the force of law, it must be signed by the President. (If the President vetoes it, then Congress can override it if two-thirds of both houses pass it. That is for another eGuide though.) The act featured in this guide illustrates an early step that the government took, through legislation, in addressing slavery.

The President can issue an executive order or a Presidential proclamation. Executive orders can only be applied within the Federal Government and Presidential proclamations are aimed outside the government. Read on to see the two examples featured here.

The Supreme Court has nine justices, and each justice is allowed one vote. The Court cannot enforce its decisions. However, some decisions carry their own power. Read on to see how one unanimous ruling resulted in a legal basis for changing the cultural definition of marriage.

President Johnson signing  
the Immigration Act of  
1965 on Liberty Island,  
October 3, 1965

Lyndon Baines Johnson  
Presidential Library and  
Museum, National Archives



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





# Act of Congress

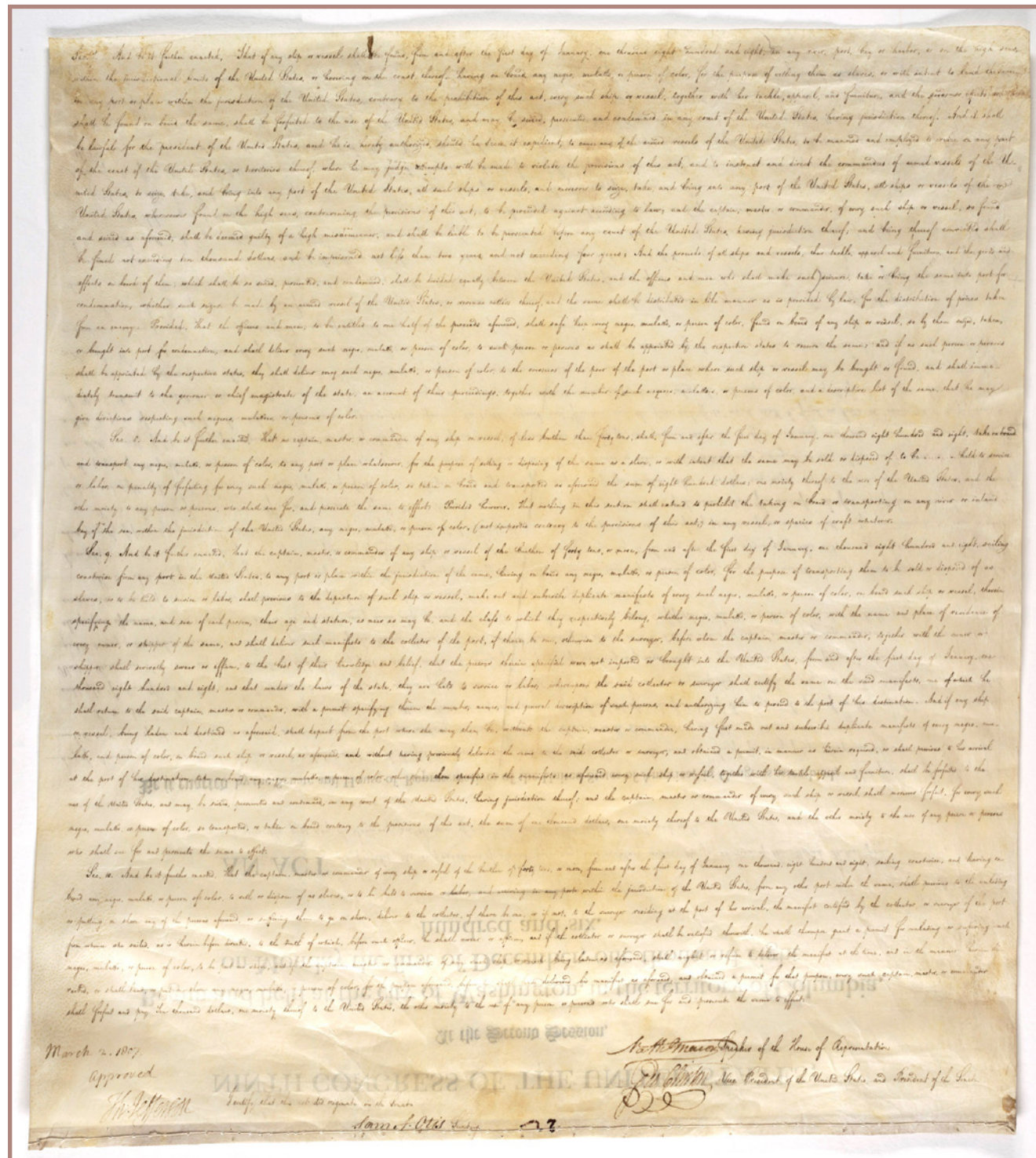
## Abolishing the importation of slaves

*“The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.” — Constitution, Article 1, Section 9*

By the time of the Constitutional Convention in 1787, only Georgia still participated in the international slave trade, which had been abolished during the Revolution as part of the ban against trade with England. Nonetheless, Southern states were determined to protect the slave trade. A compromise, Article 1, Section 9, of the Constitution, placed a possible time limit on the international trade but did not end it.

Twenty years later, President Thomas Jefferson, who himself held deeply contradictory beliefs about the morality and legality of slavery, signed the Slave Trade Act. Jefferson and Congress hoped to finally settle one aspect of the contentious issue of slavery by ending the international slave trade.

The Slave Trade Act imposed heavy penalties on traders but did not end slavery itself. It drove the trade underground, encouraging the creation of a reverse underground railroad, and ships caught illegally trading were brought into the United States, and their passengers sold into slavery.



Act banning international slave trade, January 1, 1808

National Archives, General Records of the U.S. Government



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures

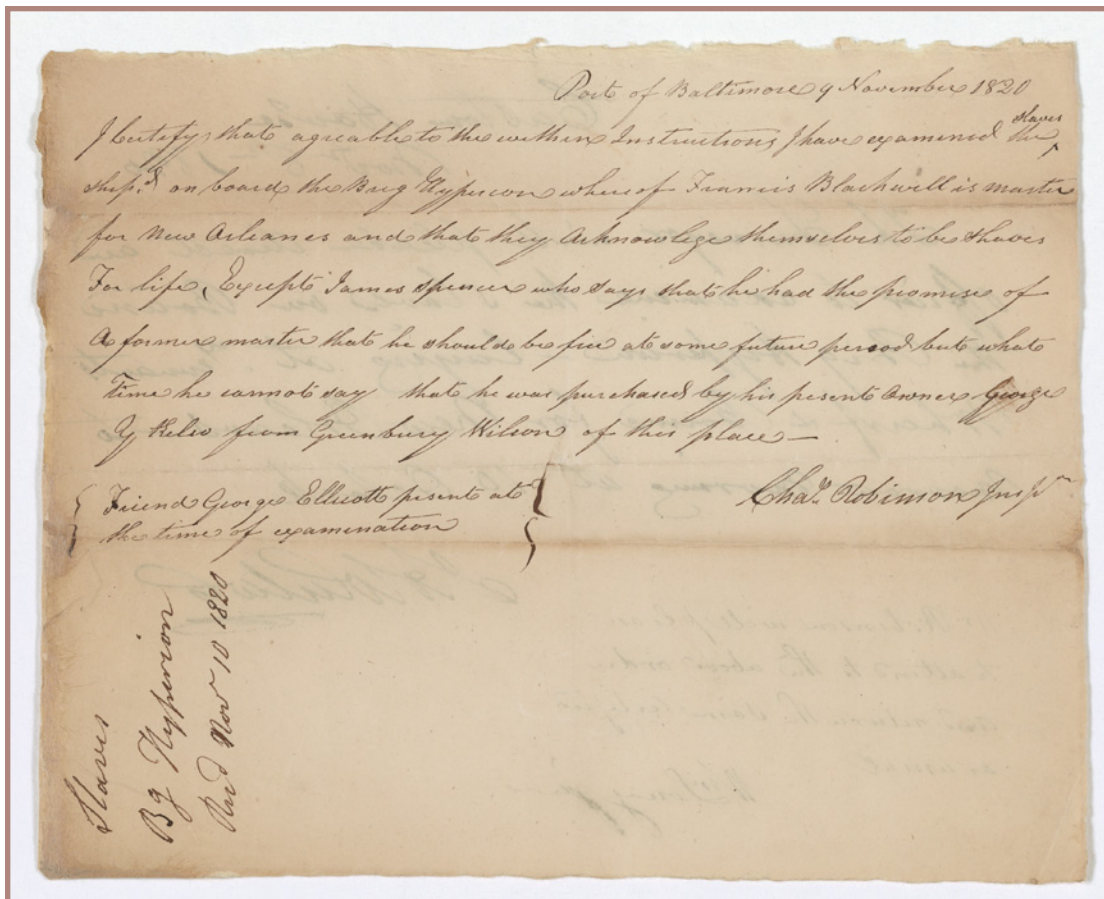
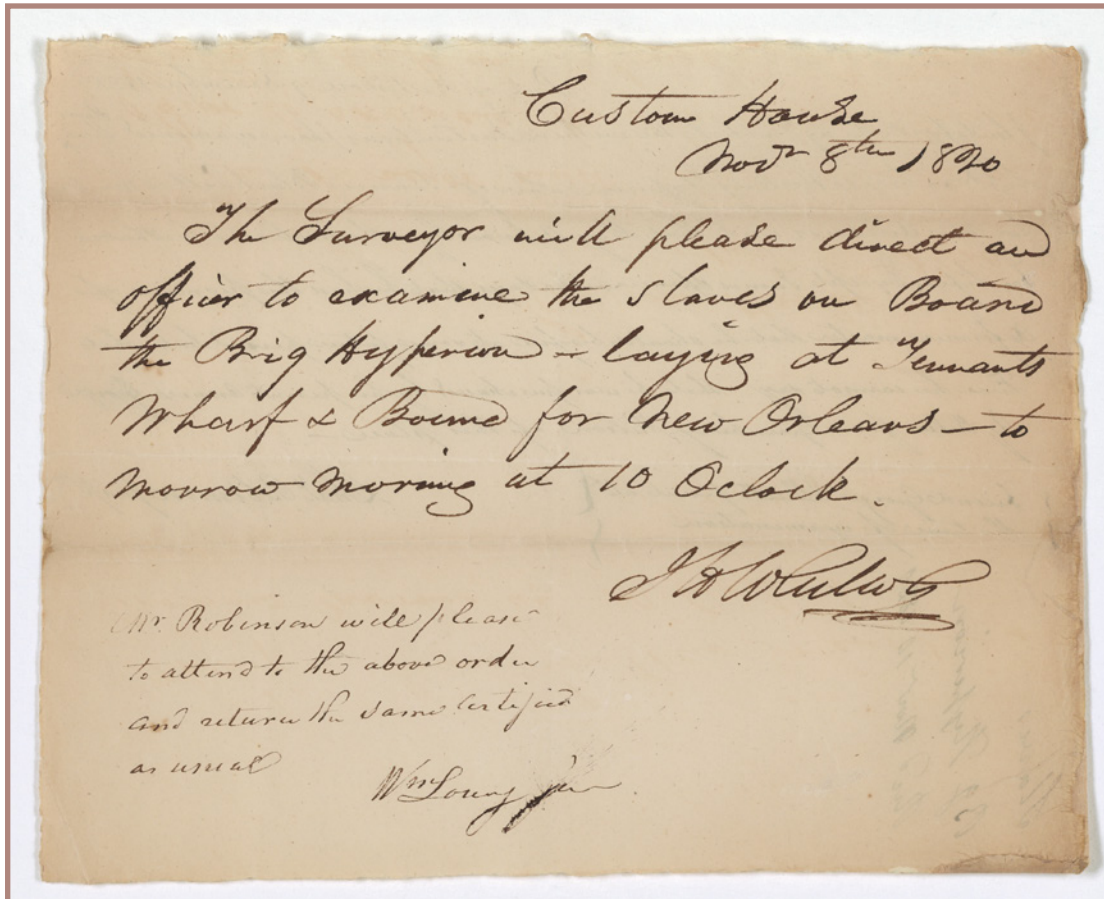




## Domestic Slave Trade

### "Slave for Life"

This ship declaration from the port of Baltimore, Maryland, dated November 1820, is just one record of the domestic slave trade that continued until 1865. Upon examination of the slave ship, ship inspector Charles Robinson wrote that those aboard, except for one, "acknowledge themselves to be Slaves for Life." The only other signature on the declaration was George Elliott, who was a member of the Society of Friends, also known as Quakers. Ardent abolitionists, the Friends were often present at ports, questioning the captain and people aboard to ensure that claims of ownership were legitimate.



Declaration for a ship regarding  
cargo, or slaves, on board

National Archives, Records of  
the U.S. Customs Service



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





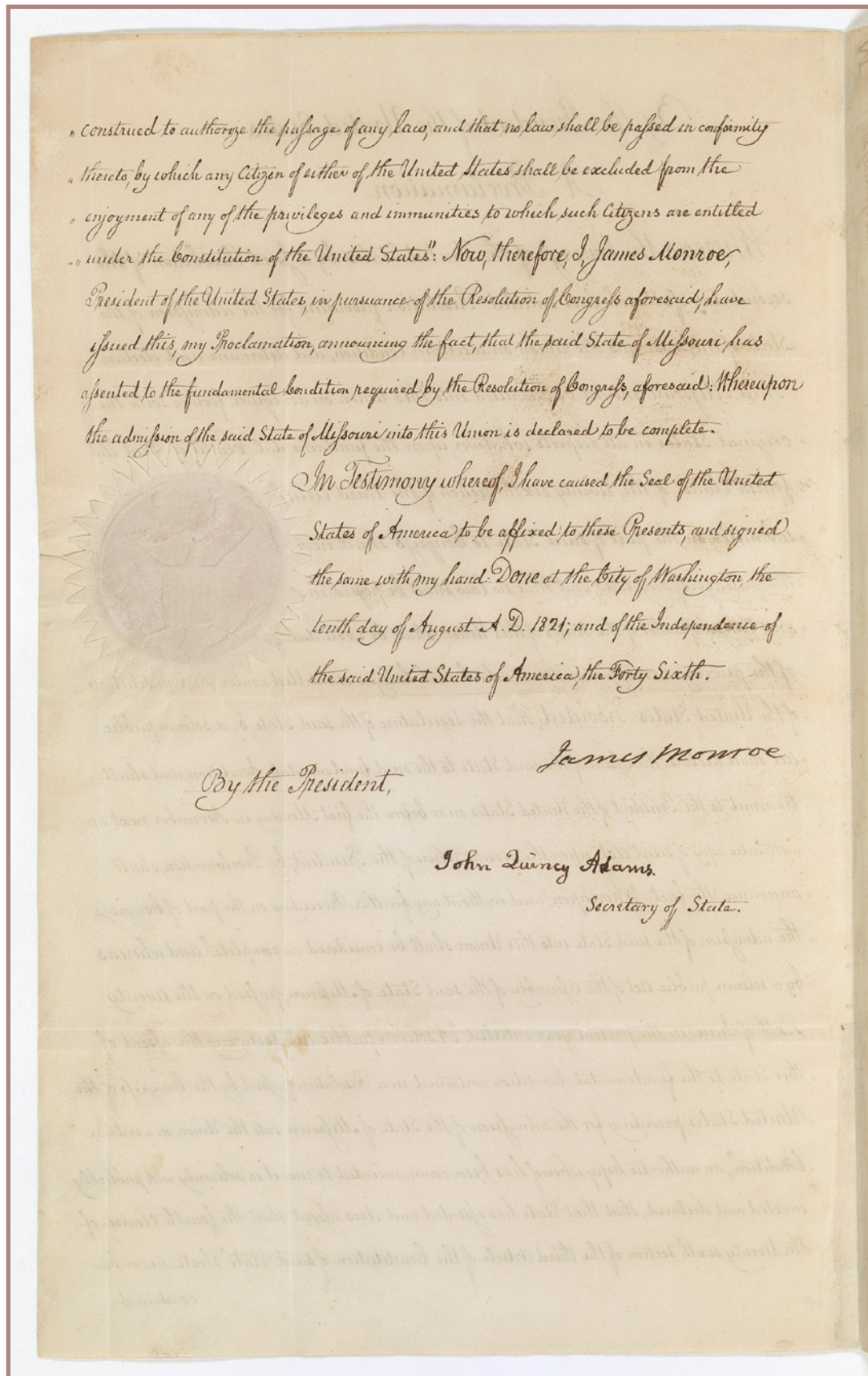
## Presidential Proclamation

### The institution of slavery in a democracy

*"it is hushed indeed for the moment. but this is a reprieve only, not a final sentence. a geographical line, coinciding with a marked principle, moral and political, once conceived and held up to the angry passions of men, will never be obliterated; and every new irritation will mark it deeper and deeper."* — Thomas Jefferson, April 22, 1820

To achieve an agreement among the states, the Founders did not fully address the issue of slavery in the Constitution but left it for future generations to resolve. As the country matured, the unresolved issue of slavery grew more contentious. The issue came to head when Missouri, which allowed slavery, applied for statehood in 1819. To maintain an equal number of free and slave states, Congress adopted legislation—known as the Missouri Compromise—that also admitted Maine, which had previously been part of Massachusetts, as a free state and prohibited slavery above the 36° 30' latitude in the Louisiana Territory. The Compromise allowed Congress to continue working and kept sectional disagreements at bay, at least temporarily.

President James Monroe signed, and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams certified, Presidential Proclamation 28 on August 10, 1821, officially announcing that Missouri had entered the Union.



Presidential Proclamation 28 admitting Missouri as a slave state, August 10, 1821

National Archives, General Records of the U.S. Government



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





## Executive Order

### Creating a Federal policy of fair employment

*"The head of each department in the executive branch of the Government shall be personally responsible for an effective program to ensure that fair employment policies are fully observed in all personnel actions within his department."* — Executive Order 9980

On July 26, 1948, President Truman signed Executive Orders 9980 and 9981. The more widely known EO 9981 desegregated the Armed Forces. Executive Order 9980 was a mandate to integrate the Federal workforce.

At the time, Washington, DC—our nation's capital—was a segregated city. "Whites only" or "Negroes" signs designated separate lunchrooms, work places, and restrooms. The Federal workforce was segregated, too, a policy implemented under President Wilson's administration. When President Truman entered the White House, only one agency—the Department of the Interior—was integrated.

Frustrated by congressional inaction, and armed with documentation from his Committee on Civil Rights that found discriminatory practices pervaded Federal agencies, President Truman issued the executive order. To give Executive Order 9980 strength and ensure implementation, Truman made the Presidentially appointed heads of each department or agency responsible. Within a year, 18 agencies had desegregated, and some agency heads that had not cooperated were removed from their positions.



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures

- 3 -

(b) Make rules and regulations, in consultation with the Civil Service Commission, deemed necessary to carry out the Board's duties and responsibilities under this order.

(c) Advise all departments on problems and policies relating to fair employment.

(d) Disseminate information pertinent to fair-employment programs.

(e) Coordinate the fair-employment policies and procedures of the several departments.

(f) Make reports and submit recommendations to the Civil Service Commission for transmittal to the President from time to time, as may be necessary to the maintenance of the fair-employment program.

6. All departments are directed to furnish to the Board all information needed for the review of personnel actions or for the compilation of reports.

7. The term "department" as used herein shall refer to all departments and agencies of the executive branch of the Government, including the Civil Service Commission. The term "personnel action," as used herein, shall include failure to act. Persons failing of appointment who allege a grievance relating to discrimination shall be entitled to the remedies herein provided.

8. The means of relief provided by this order shall be supplemental to those provided by existing statutes, Executive orders, and regulations. The Civil Service Commission shall have authority, in consultation with the Board, to make such additional regulations, and to amend existing regulations, in such manner as may be found necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this order.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
MADE AVAILABLE  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

July 26, 1948  
JUL 27 10 39 AM '48

IN THE DIVISION OF THE  
FEDERAL REGISTER

*Harry S. Truman*

9980

EO #9980, integrating Federal workforce, July 26, 1948

National Archives, General Records of the U.S. Government





# Supreme Court Decision

## Overtuning the Racial Integrity Act

*“Almighty God created the races white, black, yellow, malay, and red, and he placed them on separate continents. And but for the interference with his arrangement ... the fact that he separated the races shows that he did not intend for the races to mix.”*— Virginia State Judge Bazile, in his ruling convicting Richard and Mildred Loving

In June 1958, Richard Loving, a white man, and Mildred Jeter, who identified as black and Native American, quietly married in Washington, DC. They returned home to Virginia and woke up one morning with policemen in their bedroom. The Lovings were arrested for violating the Racial Integrity Act of 1924.

Richard and Mildred were found guilty and sentenced to one year in jail, or they could accept a plea bargain and leave Virginia. So they left. But by 1963, tired of visiting family and friends separately, they sought legal help. Attorneys Bernard S. Cohen and Philip J. Hirschkopf took their case to the Virginia Court of Appeals, where Judge Leon Bazile upheld the lower court’s ruling. The case was sent to the United States Supreme Court.

Dated June 12, 1967, and initialed by Chief Justice of the United States Earl Warren, this page confirms the decision the justices reached—they voted unanimously in favor of the Lovings. The Supreme Court Justices ruled that Virginia’s law violated the equal protection clause in the 14th amendment.

After the Supreme Court ruling, the Lovings returned to Virginia.

Decision page, initialed “EW,” by Earl Warren, June 12, 1967  
National Archives, Records of the Supreme Court of the United States

Telegram to Bernard S. Cohen announcing the verdict, June 12, 1967  
National Archives, Records of the Supreme Court of the United States



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

RICHARD PERRY LOVING and )  
MILDRED JETER LOVING, )  
Appellants ) RECORD NO. 6163  
v. )  
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, )  
Appellee )

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO  
THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES - *filed May 31, 1966*

1. Notice is hereby given that RICHARD PERRY LOVING and MILDRED JETER LOVING, the appellants above named, hereby appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States from the final Order of this, the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, entered herein on March 7, 1966, affirming the decision of the Circuit Court of Caroline County entered on January 22, 1965, which decision denied the appellants' motion to vacate the judgment and set aside the sentence, and further, affirming the judgment of conviction originally entered by the Circuit Court of Caroline County on January 6, 1959.

This appeal is taken pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1257 (2).

Appellants, Richard Perry Loving, a White person, and Mildred Jeter Loving, a Negro person, were convicted for "unlawfully and feloniously go[ing] out of the State of Virginia, for the purpose of being married, and with the intention of returning to the State of Virginia...[and] cohabiting as man and wife against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth".

§§ 20-58, 20-59 of the 1950 Code of Virginia as amended.

37

LAW OFFICES  
LAINOF, COHEN & COHEN  
1513 KING STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

5. Do the Virginia anti-miscegenation statutes deprive the appellants of the civil rights guaranteed by §1981 of Title 42 of the U.S. Code?

RICHARD PERRY LOVING and  
MILDRED JETER LOVING  
By Counsel

BERNARD S. COHEN  
PHILIP J. HIRSCHKOP  
LAINOF, COHEN & COHEN, ESQS.  
Attorneys for Appellants  
1513 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia

By: *Bernard S. Cohen*  
Bernard S. Cohen

OF COUNSEL:  
MELVIN WULF, ESQ.  
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Bernard S. Cohen, one of the attorneys for Richard Perry Loving and Mildred Jeter Loving, appellants herein, and a member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, hereby certify that on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1966, I served a copy of the foregoing Notice of Appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, on the Commonwealth of Virginia, by mailing copies in duly addressed envelopes, with first-class postage prepaid, to Robert Y. Button, the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia and to R. D. McIlwaine, III, Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

*Bernard S. Cohen*  
Bernard S. Cohen  
Attorney for Richard Perry Loving and  
Mildred Jeter Loving  
1513 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia

40

LAW OFFICES  
LAINOF, COHEN & COHEN  
1513 KING STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

Copy of the appeal, signed by lawyer Bernard Cohen, May 27, 1966

National Archives, Records of the Supreme Court of the United States



Jump to  
Something  
to Say



See All  
Signatures





## Something to Say

The boys were counting on a miracle, Einstein was hoping to educate, and the entire Hopi tribe petitioned the “Washington Chiefs” in order to organize how they saw fit. These signatures and the people behind them are captured moments in our collective history. Decades later, why do their stories and signatures continue to intrigue us?







# Hopi Tribe

## Petitioning the “Washington Chiefs”

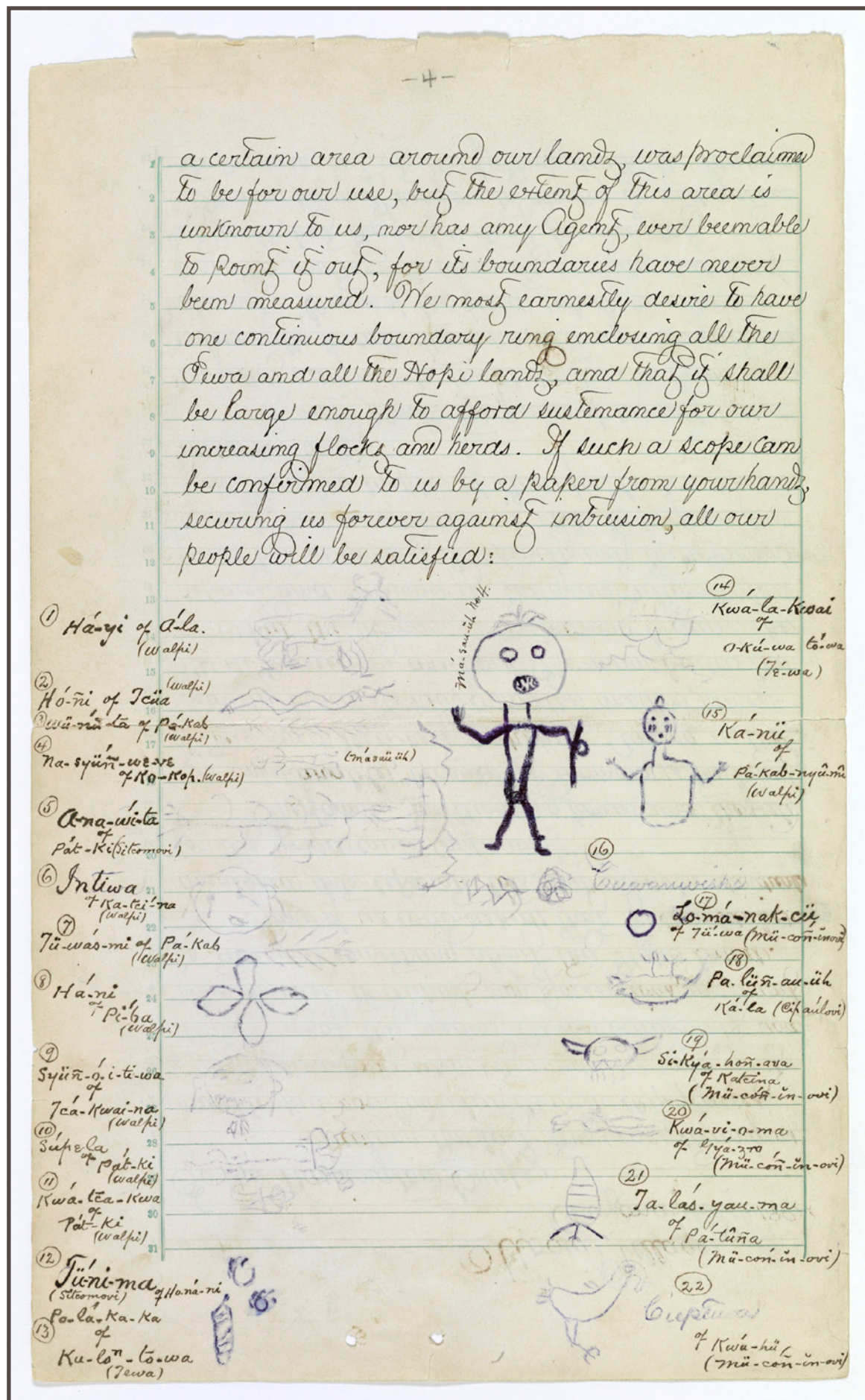
“During the last two years strangers have looked over our land with spyglasses and made marks upon it, and we know but little of what this means.” — Hopi tribe

Seeking an answer from the Federal Government, the Hopi tribe in the Arizona Territory petitioned Congress asking that the entire tribe be given land, rather than allotments to individuals as determined by the Dawes Act. The Hopi lived in the arid desert and farmed communally to survive. The allotment process would sell off “excess” lands, reducing the overall acreage the tribe needed to survive. Also, the Hopi were a matrilineal society, meaning they traced ancestry through the mother. They were fearful that the allotment process would eventually cancel out their way of life, and that women would not have control of their own homes. Each pictogram represents a family, and every family in the tribe signed the petition.

The government never formally responded to the petition, and the Hopi’s lands were never allotted. In an annual report from the Indian commissioner, it was recommended that the Hopis be allowed to continue their custom, “it is believed that the best interests of the tribe would be promoted by granting the petition.”

Hopi petition, 1894

National Archives, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs







## The Rosenberg Boys

**“Please don’t leave my brother and I without a Mommy and Daddy”**

In a letter to President Eisenhower, 10-year-old Michael Rosenberg and 6-year-old Robert Rosenberg pleaded for the lives of their parents, convicted spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, stating, “We love them very much.” Julius and Ethel were U.S. citizens sentenced to death for passing secret information on the atomic bomb to the Soviet Union. Supporters of the Rosenbergs lobbied for an executive pardon, but it was not granted. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed on June 19, 1953. After their parents’ deaths, the Rosenberg children were adopted by Abel and Anne Meeropol.

For decades after their execution, many questioned the legitimacy of the Rosenberg’s conviction. Recent evidence indicates that Julius was a Soviet spy. Ethel was most likely aware of her husband’s involvement in espionage, but was probably not a spy herself.

Dear Mr. President,  
Please don't leave my  
brother and I without a  
Mommy and Daddy.  
They have always been  
good to us. We love them  
very much.  
Michael and Robert  
Rosenberg  
36 Laurel Hill Terrace  
New York, N.Y.







## Nakata Declares Loyalty

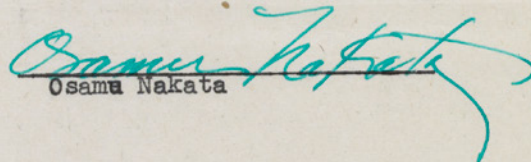
**“I am willing to preserve the principles of democracy and freedom”**

In 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which ordered the removal of nearly 120,000 Japanese Americans from the west coast. Osama Nakata was incarcerated at Poston Relocation Camp in remote western Arizona, behind barbed wire and watched by armed guards.

Nakata was required to fill out a loyalty questionnaire which included questions about his relatives, the newspapers and magazines he read, and his ability to read, write, and speak Japanese. The final page of his application is a signed statement answering one of the last questions, “Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered?”

If my family are not returned this  
“CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS” of the U.S.  
I will not serve in the armed forces of  
the U.S., this does not mean that I  
will not completely serve the armed  
force of the U.S. but will serve half  
way, but I am willing to preserve the  
principles of democracy and freedom  
by working in a defence plant or by  
operating a farm or in any other form  
to help the U.S. to win this war  
providing that the U.S. government will  
provide the fund.

Very truly yours,

  
Osama Nakata



Loyalty questionnaire, May 31, 1944

National Archives at Riverside, Records of the Selective Service System

Poston incarceration camp, living quarters, June 1, 1942

National Archives, Records of the War Relocation Authority





## Einstein Promotes Peace

"If the present bitterness continues ... we face catastrophe."

Not long after the end of World War II, Albert Einstein founded the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists. He and his co-founder, scientist Leó Szilárd, toured the country to educate the public on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Ironically, an earlier letter signed by Einstein—warning President Roosevelt of the dangers of a possible German atomic bomb—is credited with starting the U.S. drive to establish the Manhattan Project that built the first atomic bomb.

### EMERGENCY COMMITTEE of ATOMIC SCIENTISTS

INCORPORATED

Room 28, 90 NASSAU STREET  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

November 29, 1947

Trustees  
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Chairman

HAROLD C. UREY  
Vice-Chairman

HANS A. BETHE  
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T. R. HOGNESS  
PHILIP M. MORSE  
LINUS PAULING  
FREDERICK SEITZ  
LEO SZILARD  
V. F. WEISSKOPF

Dear Friend:

I write to you out of a feeling of grave concern, which I believe you share. I am convinced that if the present bitterness continues to dominate international relations we face catastrophe.

We can not count on the prestige or strength of any single nation to bring about international stability. The power that one country possesses today, tomorrow will belong also to others. Industrial installations, however complex, can be duplicated; inventive ingenuity and economic resources can be exploited under other systems of government. So long as international relations are determined by rival national sovereignties, the threat of atomic war will remain.

We scientists believe that a clear and widespread understanding of the facts and implications of the atomic discoveries is indispensable to a reasonable public stand on questions of international politics. Given this understanding, men and women will recognize that only international cooperation through effective institutions can ensure security against humanity's destruction.

The enclosed article sets forth my beliefs as to the reasons for the stalemate which confronts us today in the vitally important negotiations on international atomic energy control. It proposes certain actions on the part of our people and our government which I think would be helpful in lessening the present tensions. Because each one of us must bear his share of the burden of this generation, I ask you to consider these suggestions, and to discuss them with your neighbors. Only through clear formulation and frank discussion of concrete proposals can men of good will in all countries help to achieve a solution.

Now still a little time remains for us to consider different paths leading to the establishment of a federation of nations in which men may develop and use their creative capacities to serve mankind. Each one of us can do his part by working to bring about responsible public action based on understanding of the present crisis. Through our campaign of public education on the simple facts of atomic energy and its social implications, we of the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists have pledged our utmost effort to this end. Friends have already subscribed nearly \$400,000.00 of the one million dollars we need to carry out our minimum program. I ask you to help us in fulfilling our task.

Faithfully yours,

*A. Einstein*

AE:mr

800/71

Letter from Albert Einstein

National Archives, Records

of the Foreign Service Posts

of the Department of State



See All  
Signatures





## CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

6. Timing of such a proposal is very important. If such a proposal is made, it should be done very soon, before either Russia or the U.S. has accomplished a man-in-space mission.

7. If we wait until we make the first orbital flight, and then propose an exchange, it would appear that we are "rubbing it in" a little and are willing to throw a little information to our poor cousins who could not do it themselves. This would probably do us more harm than good in the attitude with the rest of the world.

8. If, on the other hand, we wait until the Russians have made the first orbital flight before we propose such an exchange, it would appear that we are trying to get information on how they did it because we have not been able to do the same thing. This would also do us harm in the eyes of other countries.

9. To summarize, we stand to gain information in an exchange of visits, while giving little information that is not already known. Propaganda value of such a proposal and visit should be very favorable for us, if the proposal is made from the U.S. and before either country has made an orbital flight.

10. One way to assess the value of such a proposal is to think of our reaction and the reaction of other countries if the Russians make such a proposal first. It appears that we stand to gain by making the proposal first.

11. It is realized that there are many considerations involved in such a proposal. NASA, State Department, Intelligence, and many other government sources concerned must have vital inputs that will determine whether the proposal is not only feasible, but advisable.

12. The proposal is herewith submitted for consideration.

*M. Scott Carpenter*  
M. Scott Carpenter  
Lieutenant, USN

*John H. Glenn, Jr.*  
John H. Glenn  
Lt. Col., USMC

*Walter M. Schirra*  
Lt. Cmdr., USN *WMS*

*Donald K. Slayton*  
Captain, USAF *DKS*

*Leroy G. Cooper Jr.*  
Leroy G. Cooper  
Captain, USAF

*Virgil I. Grissom*  
Virgil I. Grissom  
Captain, USAF

*Alan B. Shepard*  
Alan B. Shepard  
Lt. Cmdr., USN

CONFIDENTIAL

## Mercury 7

### Not in agreement

*"Propaganda-wise, we apparently stand to gain a great deal and could lose little or nothing."* — Memo from NASA regarding exchange of visits with Russian astronauts, October 21, 1959

Selected from 500 applicants, the Mercury Seven were to be the first Americans in space. Introduced to the world on April 10, 1959, the men considered themselves to be military test pilots, but became instant national heroes. However, the men were caught in the middle of the larger Cold War rivalry and space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. NASA, concerned

about the growing competition between the two countries, sent this memo proposing to publicly work with Russia. Two of the seven, Walter M. Schirra and Donald K. Slayton, in an apparent protest to this, crossed their names out and did not sign.



The original Mercury Seven and the only time they would appear all together in pressure suits, 1960

Courtesy of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

### Memo from NASA

National Archives at Ft. Worth, Records of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)





This guide is based on the exhibition “Making Their Mark: Stories Through Signatures” on exhibit in the Lawrence F’ O’Brien Gallery March 21, 2014–January 5, 2015, at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. [Visit Us.](#)

## Credits

National Archives Staff, Washington, D.C.

Written & curated by Jennifer N. Johnson

eGuide designed by Amanda Perez

Edited by Benjamin Guterman

Image scans by Digital Imaging Department

Studio photography by Michelle Farnsworth



# Acknowledgments



The exhibit is made possible in part by the Foundation for the National Archives with generous support of Lead Sponsor AT&T. Major additional support has been provided by the Lawrence F. O'Brien Family and members of the Board of the Foundation for the National Archives.

Created under the direction of Chris Rudy Smith, Director of the Museum, and Jim Gardner, Executive for Presidential Libraries, Legislative Archives, and Museum Programs, the exhibition and this eGuide would not have been possible without the combined efforts and expertise of many National Archives staff.

I want to especially thank my colleagues in the National Archives Museum and those who were on the “Making Their Mark” core team. Ray Ruskin designed the exhibit. Karen Hibbitt, James Zeender, Patrick Kepley, and Alexis Hill served as exhibit registrars. Amanda Perez created and designed this eGuide. Terry Boone was the exhibit conservator, and Michelle Farnsworth was responsible for much of the scanning and photographing of the artifacts. Bruce Bustard and Alice Kamps read drafts of the exhibit script, and through their thoughtful reading and insightful questions, the final script evolved into a more concise, refined set of stories that I so wanted to tell. And last, I want to thank Corinne Porter. Her research led to some of the real gems in the exhibit, and her hard work and presence at every stage of this exhibit was felt immeasurably.

This exhibit would not have been possible without the generous support of the Foundation for the National Archives, led by Director Patrick Madden and Deputy Executive Director Frank Cordes. I would like to specially thank Stefanie Mathew, Director of Development, who led the fundraising effort for the exhibition.

In addition, I am grateful to the following National Archives staff for their expertise and assistance: Karen Abramson, Audrey Amidon, Claudia Anderson, Lynn Bassanese, Shane Bell, Mark Beveridge, Doug Bicknese, Christine Blackerby, Vicky Blue, Stacey Bredhoff, Ashley Bucciferro, Carol Buswell, V. Chapman-Smith, Bob Clark, Barbara Cline, Susie Cox, Greg Cumming, Netisha Currie, Sara Davis, Stacy Davis, Halaina Demba, Laura Diachenko, Elaine Didier, Katie Dishman, Kate Dodge, Jamie Draper, Mike Duggan, Cecilia Epstein, Jane Fitzgerald, Michelle Frauenberger, Gwen Granados, Martha Grove, Geir Gunderson, Chris Gushman, Benjamin Guterman, Meg Hacker, Dee Harris, Ken Heger,



Richard Hnat, Kirstin Holm, Heidi Holstrom, Robert Holzweiss, Miriam Kleiman, Criss Kovac, Jessie Kratz, John Laster, Meghan Lee-Parker, Glenn Longacre, Alan Lowe, Sarah Malcolm, Jennifer Mandel, Becky Martin, Ashley Mattingly, Mike McDonald, Doug McRae, Ellen Mulligan, Isabel Parker, Hilary Parkinson, Jay Patton, Jennifer Pederson, Rick Peuser, David Pfeiffer, Trevor Plante, Stephen Plotkin, Connie Potter, Holly Reed, Tim Rives, Christina Rodriguez, Daniel Rooney, Rod Ross, Sam Rushay, Thomas Schwartz, Bill Seibert, Rebecca Sharp, Leslie Simon, Lynn Smith, Sara Shpargel, Yoonjoo Strumfels, Jerry Thompson, Mathew Thompson, Jennifer Torres, Irina Tsiklik, Jim Wagner, Tammy Williams, Anne Witty, Amy Young, Christopher Zarr, Morgan Zinsmeister, and Neils Zussblatt.

I also appreciate the generous assistance and time of Professors David M. Kennedy at Stanford University and Michael Kazin at Georgetown University, who provided invaluable advice and encouragement.

Lastly, I want to thank my friends and family for their support. Whether it was user testing early versions of the eGuide or acting as a sounding board as I turned each story over and over, they were hugely helpful in shaping this project.

Many thanks to you all.



Jennifer Johnson  
Curator



# Citations

## National Archives at College Park, Maryland

Photograph “Card Punch Operators working on population cards, Negro section. Approximately 329,341,293 cards in 151 forms were punched for the decennial census.” 1940 – 1941; 29-C-1B-39, Photographs Documenting the Sixteenth Decennial Census, 1940 – 1941, Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives at College Park

Photograph “Card Punch Operators working on population cards. A total of 2,400 punchers were employed and 1,859 punch machines of all types were used in the 1940 Census”, 1940 – 1941; 29-C-1B-38, Photographs Documenting the Sixteenth Decennial Census, 1940 – 1941, Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives at College Park

Letter from FDR to Secretary of Treasury, 12/12/1941; Subject Files of the Division of Bookkeeping and Warrants, 1909 – 1949, Records of the Bureau of Accounts (Treasury), Record Group 39; National Archives at College Park

Letter from FDR to Secretary of Treasury, 2/6/1942; Subject Files of the Division of Bookkeeping and Warrants, 1909 – 1949, Records of the Bureau of Accounts (Treasury), Record Group 39; National Archives at College Park

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### **National Archives at Washington, DC**

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Copy of appeal from *Loving v. VA*, 5/27/1966; Case File 395 October Term 1966, *Loving v. VA*, Records of the Supreme Court of the United States, Record Group 267; National Archives at Washington, DC

Decision (*Loving v. VA* case) 06/12/1967; Case File 395 October Term 1966, *Loving v. VA*, Records of the Supreme Court of the United States, Record Group 267; National Archives at Washington, DC

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Letter from George Washington to the President of the Congress Regarding the Resignation of his Commission, 12/20/1783; File Unit: Letters from General George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Army, 1775 – 1784, Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention, Record Group 360; National Archives at Washington, DC ([Identifier 5757421](#))

Dress, Narcisco Rodriguez, knee-length black dress with red floral detailing worn by First Lady Michelle Obama on election night, 2008; Courtesy of the Presidential Materials Division; National Archives at Washington, DC

Iraqi soccer jersey, ca. 2007; courtesy of the Presidential Materials Division; Washington, DC

## **Presidential Libraries**

### **Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum**

Franklin D. Roosevelt's hat made by Cavanaugh, ca. 1931; Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum; Hyde Park, NY ([Identifier 7694135](#))

Photograph Franklin D. Roosevelt talks with Chaplain Crawford W. Brown at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas, 4/18/1943; 80-118(488), Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum; Hyde Park, NY

### **Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum**

Dinner seating chart from President Truman's meeting at Potsdam, 7/23/1945; Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum; Independence, MO ([Identifier 7542735](#))

### **Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum**

President Eisenhower's Short Snorter, ca. 1944; Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene, KS ([Identifier 7717455](#))



Letter from Jackie Robinson to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 5/13/1958; Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum; Abilene, KS (Identifier 186627)

Jacket owned and worn by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, ca. 1944; Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum; Abilene, KS (Identifier 7717661)

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### **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum**

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Jacqueline Kennedy's pillbox hat, ca. 1960; John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum; Boston, MA

### **Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum**

Photograph of President Johnson and Louis Martin at the reception for Democratic National Committee Delegates, 4/20/1996; A2288-9, Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum; Austin, TX

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Letter from Barry Goldwater to LBJ after the accepted the Vice Presidential nomination, 7/15/1960; Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum; Austin, TX



## **Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum**

Photograph of country western singer Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash, 11/21/1975; A7406-04, Gerald R. Ford White House Photographs, compiled 8/9/1974 – 1/20/1977, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum; Ann Arbor, MI (**Identifier 6829577**)

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## **Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum**

Lakers polo shirt signed by team, ca. 1988; Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum; Simi Valley, CA

## **George H. W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum**

Card from Saddam Hussein to George H.W. Bush, 2/1989; George H. W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum; College Station, TX

## **External**

Photograph “The original Mercury Seven and the only time they would appear all together in pressure suits”, 1960; Courtesy of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)